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CANADA'S WEEKLY NEWSMAGAZINE FEBRUARY 22 1993 VOL. 106 NO. 8

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COVER

THE WORLD OF TEENS

Modern teenagers are growing up in a time of touch-of-button technology, living the reality of broken families and coming of age in the era of AIDS. In a special report, based on an exclusive nationwide poll, Maclean's examines how teens feel about sex, drugs, their parents, their futures, their own bodies and bodies—about the whole confusing world that they inhabit. — 26

BUSINESS

BAY STREET'S BONANZA

Boosted by high debt levels and flagging investor confidence, the Toronto-based Edger corporate empire has sold almost \$2 billion in assets—in just one week. Although the rules of MacMillan Bloedel Ltd. and John Labatt Ltd. demonstrate Edger's underlying value, they raised many new questions. — 18



FILMS

THE POWER OF LOVE

Two new movies offer mood-enhancing tunes for winter discontent. Strictly Ballroom is a buoyant Australian feature about competitive dancing. And Groundhog Day, starring Bill Murray and Andie MacDowell, is a Hollywood farce about a man who relives the same day over and over again. — 36





Serving the highest cause

Most of the time, newspaper editors can safely be read after everything else in the paper—and only if time permits. The editorial pages of *The Globe and Mail* on Feb. 11 and 12 were a striking exception to the rule. In its opening salvo, the newspaper pointed to such astronomical recent stories as those concerning a face value study purporting to show that 81 per cent of female university students suffer from "date abuse," while obscuring the fact that those reporting actual rape numbered in the range of one per cent. It also noted stories claiming that there is a "national epidemic" of abuse of the elderly, while defining the forms of abuse almost as an afterthought. Said the editorial writer: "The press has placed its critical faculties in a blind trust." It was an unusually courageous charge for a newspaper that is a leader of its craft. And it was long overdue.

As the *Globe* went on to point out, there is a spending tendency among journalists and editors to consider special-interest groups and lobbies as the legitimate sources of information in presenting a story from all dimensions. In fact, what slavish reporting of self-interest-group views almost inevitably produces are stories about conflicts that may exist—or, more likely, may not—in real life. Nowhere is that clearer than in reporting the debate over dangers that tobacco poses to health. It is as predictable as

the seasons that for every smokescreen of health risks, reporters, often under heavy pressure from their editors, will give the claims of the anti-smokers from the tobacco lobby equal space with the legitimate researchers. The same technique too often applies to reporting on politics, business and economics—a field where one school of determined theorists has convinced an entire generation of journalists that government deficits and debts are necessarily bad, even though their real meaning is rarely understood or appreciated.

The general journalistic sloppiness has a noble origin: it is the outgrowth of a determination by the best publications to foster unbiased, fair stories in their pages. That approach should never be abandoned. But as the search for fairness, reporters and editors have to be prepared to exercise their critical judgment in deciding what legitimate information must be reflected in a story, avoiding the knee-jerk tendency to call the label jobless, at best, or accepting a single voice, at worst. Then, it will always be the function of reporters and editors to present the story fairly to the best of their ability, free of their own preconceived beliefs and biases, approaching—even if never attaining—unvarnished truth. The headlines may be a bit less entertaining. But the readers and society will be better served. And in the whole daily or weekly cycle, they are the only ones who count.

Ken Doyle

Macleans

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LETTERS

'Beyond belief'

The audacity of *Black Thursday* is deserving itself as having depth and one strategy, just before and during "Calm of horror," *Corner* (Feb. 10) is simply beyond belief, as is the question of his now being pardoned. And as for his corrupt nature, if this is a what period reform is about, back to the drawing boards because the reform needs reform. The ultimate crime is that time, attention and money is being spent on this salacious incident.

Andrew W. Phillips,
Ottawa



Thursday demands dignity and integrity, emotional costs and peace reforms

as they reflect and the disgusting and perverted of debauched sexuality in *As the Ashes Fall* states in "Last at the end of the line" (Life-style, Feb. 10), he felt so relieved that "I washed every *Dancer* movie I could find." How and that a woman is so hard up for most cash that she needs to keep on doing something but conscience told her was wrong in the first place.

Frank Potvin,
Pakenia, B.C.

Keeping them in line

No *Barbara Amiel* finds it "galling to have a reformer who speaks with every literacy than the future king" ("Charles, Diana and the role of the media," *Column*, Feb. 1). I find it disappointing, but not surprising, that this *Barbara* and another *Amiel* can remain such negatively mis-Canadian socialists. A million who needs! My goodness, *Barb*, there's no telling what the postal art will get up to if you don't keep them down.

David Shapiro,
Ottawa

'Not a panacea'

The debate over the Youth News Network seems to focus on the question of the appropriateness of advertising in schools ("Sponsors in class," *Education*, Feb. 6). Critics of this bill to recognize that it will provide an important context for learning, which is by inserting ads teachers must do. Questioning about the idea of television advertising is to name, responsible teachers across the curricu-

lum will welcome the opportunity to use ads and advertising in their classrooms. When students are taught deconstruction, the breaking down of both image and text for the purpose of analysis, they will develop critical thinking. Use of advertising to shape viewing and learning skills will help educate our young consumers. Instead of ignoring the glut of ads in which our children are exposed, schools should be teaching students to be more perceptive television viewers. This is not a panacea, but a crucible teacher will use the news and ads in a vital and relevant classroom.

Bob Alexander,
Head, English Department
Centennial Academy,
Mississauga

Redrawing the map

While writing lyrical in the tradition of *Shore* on real emotions in a *Revelation*, Alan Robb's glowing glosses over the revelation of a major change in Canadian geography ("Memories of a time that never changes," Feb. 6). His second paragraph implies that both the North and South Seas have been moved and their flow and ocean currents, and from Alberta. Further, there is now a major waterway connecting the North-South Sea to the Atlantic Ocean. Have the federal surveyors and cartographers been keeping a secret? Did these geographers and the leaders not need to get them from Edmonton to Adelaide? Or do the implications that P.O., in recent years, has been less interested in that and more interested in fiction have some foundation?

K.J. Franklin,
Edmonton

Letters may be condensed. Please supply name, address and daytime telephone number. Letters to the Editor should be sent to: Maclean's, 222 Adelaide St. W., Toronto, Ont. M5H 1A7. Or by fax: (416) 593-7779.

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New York City 10014
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OPENING NOTES

The luck of a minister, the Rodney King test and the sons of *Star Trek*

DOGS AND CATS

When they mention Canada, opponents of animal health insurance in the United States often scoff at accuracy for sensationalism. In the Jan. 27 *New York Times*, an ad paid for by the Dallas-based National Center for Policy Alternatives had an ominous, probing message: "Under Canada's global budgets, dogs have more rights than humans." The ad claimed that in Canada an animal can get a CAT scan, a test that provides a three-dimensional X-ray of the body, within 24 hours, while humans "in pain and suffering" have to wait for months. The acquisition for the ad was an 18-month-old article in the *Guelph, Ont., Mercury*, which said of a man who had to wait two months for a CAT scan while *Star Trek* actor Michael Blouin in suburban Toronto was doing scans on animals. That, however, was not the whole story, according to the veterinary records



of a cat who performed the tests. Noting that, rights hospital budgets restrict the use of CAT scans, machines in a 36-hour-a-day, 24-hour-a-day, Dr. Shepherd Lane told Maclean's that he would assume only when the expensive apparatus would normally have been turned off—and that he paid the hospital bill of the \$800 he charged the dog owners. With the extra money, the hospital was able to operate the machine for longer hours, treating more people. "Animals have donated many lives to medical science," and Lane. "We were finally able to turn that around and give money to help pay for the scans" bill, the hospital stopped the practice soon after the *Mercury* article. CATs and dogs, apparently, still do not mix.

CAT scan machine: expensive

WORD QUESTIONS

Trial by Questionnaire

In April, the acquittal of four white police officers in the videotaped beating of black motorist Rodney King set off four days of violence, rioting and looting in Los Angeles. Now, those seven officers face federal charges of violating King's civil rights (page 32). To help select a jury for the second trial, the U.S. District Court of Central California has instructed hundreds of potential jurors to fill out a 52-page questionnaire. Among the 248 questions:

Do you watch movies in French?

Do you read in your spare time?

Do you watch television?

How important would you say religion is in your life?

Have you ever had any contact with anyone in your law enforcement agency through your work, or your neighborhood or in your social life?

Do you believe police officers make mistakes in the performance of their duties?

How do you feel about the way the external justice system is working in the United States?

Did you see, hear or read anything about the previous trial?

What do you feel caused the civil unrest and riots that occurred in Los Angeles in April and May of 1992?

Did you, or any friend or relative, participate in the civil unrest?

Do you live the prospect of social unrest following a verdict in this case?

In general, do you think our society treats people of all races equally?

Do you own a firearm? If yes, does it have an automatic firing rate?

POP MOVIES

Top movies in Canada, ranked according to box office receipts during the seven days ending on Feb. 11. (In brackets number of screens/weeks showing.)

1. *Aladdin* (118/1) \$884,430
2. *After* (94/4) \$778,308
3. *Loaded Weapon 2* (96/1) \$514,908
4. *Summer of '76* (76/1) \$492,200
5. *The Untouchables* (63/1) \$513,908
6. *A Few Good Men* (79/9) \$375,300
7. *Sniper* (50/7) \$289,700
8. *Sons of a Woman* (71/9) \$275,300
9. *The Crying Game* (36/10) \$244,500
10. *Dead People* (59/7) \$232,700

(Source: Exhibitor Relations Co. Inc.)

PASSAGES

SUICIDE: Queen Elizabeth II, 66, the most-revered monarch in the world, died last night in London (page 32). The *Star*, for copyright in the monarch's name, after the paper broke an embargo and published her Christian message two days before Dec. 25. In her message, the Queen said that her family had undergone "difficult days" during 1992, which saw the collapse of the empires of her two older sons, Charles and Andrew. In another development last week, Prince Michael John, Major said that the Queen would pay income and capital gains tax at the same rate as any other taxpayer—presumably the top rate of 40 per cent.

DIED: Retired tennis star Arthur Ashe, 49, of pneumonia, resulting from AIDS, in a New York City hospital. The first black to play on the U.S. Davis Cup team, Ashe, a Wimbledon and U.S. Open champion, used his celebrity status to fight racism in sports. He was infected with the AIDS virus from tainted blood he received as he recovered from heart surgery, said *Wally* after his second operation in 1993.

DIED: Toronto-based educator and author Harold Tyrrell, 78, in a New York City hospital. He first gained prominence in 1945 when he assumed the presidency of Sarah Lawrence College in Bronxville, N.Y., and became, at 30, the youngest American college president. Tyrrell's books included the controversial *Swedish Welfare Teachers* (1958), which for smaller classes and closer relations between teachers and students. He was also head of the 1960-1980 ADCTV series *Meet the Professor*.

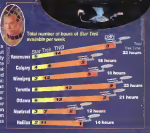
DIED: Journalist Stephen Godfrey, 33, of cancer, while visiting his parents in Toronto and Midland, weekly, in Toronto. A perceptive specialist in contemporary Canadian culture, he wrote on a wide range of subjects and was named among his colleagues for the clarity of his reporting and the elegance of his prose.

DIED: Political economist and author Erik Jernemyr, 60, of complications from diabetes and heart disease, in a New York City hospital. His major literary work was that political perspective, debate, economic and management. A winner of all 16 provincial and national prizes, Jernemyr was the first of Franklin D. Roosevelt, Jernemyr frequently issued such pessimistic predictions that he earned the nickname "Calvin Jernemyr."

FILED: A conspiracy against police in Durham, England, east of Toronto, by Philadelphia's *Open Star* Eric Lindholm, 18, after an Ontario Court judge dismissed a charge of common assault against him. Factory worker Lynn Ramsey, 34, had

Living long and prospering

When Capt. James T. Kirk (William Shatner) and the crew of the starship Enterprise set out in 1961 to explore strange new worlds, they barely met out of orbit. *Star Trek* lasted only moderately well in the television ratings during its three-year, 78-episode run. But the show has grown a popularity over time. In addition to reruns of the original series, *Star Trek* has launched two syndicated spinoffs: four-year-old *Star Trek: The Next Generation* and the new space-station drama *Star Trek: Deep Space Nine*. The result is a weekly rerun of some of *Trek* television depending on where they live. Canadians can have into the programs for as many as 23 hours a week.



Michael that Lindholm had poured and spit beer onto her in Koo Hoo Restaurant nightclub in Whistler, Ont., on Nov. 29. Lindholm complained that police publicly embarrassed him by readily handling him when he turned himself in.

SIGNING: By Magic Ridge, B.C.-born and father Larry Walker, 35, a one-year \$3-million contract with the Montreal Expos of baseball's National League, making him the highest paid player and the highest paid Canadian baseball player ever. Walker made that trade his salary for the 1992 season, according to last year's 301 with 33 home runs and 89 RBIs.

BORN: To Paula Stulper, 32, wife of Academy Award-winning actor Rod Stulper, 61, star-spangled, seven-month-old Winston Stulper, at a Santa Monica, Calif., hospital.

BORN: To actress Nastassja Kinski, 33, wife of professor and composer Quincy Jones, 50, seven-month-old, Mexican *Quincy Jones* Michael Jones, in a Los Angeles hospital.

CONVICTED: Celebrity divorce lawyer Marvin Mischel, 64, last known for his so-called pathology case against actor Lee Marvin, of four charges of federal tax evasion of more than \$250,000. In a U.S. district court judge in Los Angeles, The lawyer represented singer Michael Tinsley against Marvin, who had to pay her \$130,000. Mischel keeps up to 12 years in prison and a \$125,000 fine.

THE MILLIONAIRE MINISTER

Like many lucky winners, Charles Furey says that becoming a millionaire will have little impact on his life. But unlike any previous winners, he is a provincial cabinet minister. On Feb. 3, the industry minister in Newfoundland Premier Clyde Wells's cabinet was visiting constituents in the rural north coast village of St. Barbe when he received a phone call from his former colleague, Cindy Whitham. "You had better sit down," Furey recalled Whitham telling him. "We've won the lottery." The take-\$125-million in the Lotto 649 draw "It is sort of ironic," acknowledged Furey. "Here I am, the

minister in charge of environment. Well, I am happy to tell the people at Newfoundland that I have brought \$125 million in new investment into the province." Furey, 38, added that after spending some of the winnings on renovating his St. John's house and an family trip for his 13-year-old mother, he will put the remainder into a blind trust until he returns to private life. But becoming an ordinary citizen is far from Furey's mind—having a reversal of political fortune. The two-term incumbent says that he will seek another term in the Newfoundland election expected later this year.



Why not?

Test your development IQ!

Question 5

Foster Parents Plan does not give direct financial assistance. Why not? (three correct answers):

- a. too difficult to administer
- b. creates dependency
- c. constant misuse by recipients
- d. inefficient use of funds
- e. creates dissension in village

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b., d. & e.

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ANOTHER VIEW



A guaranteed solution to the deficit problem

BY CHARLES GORDON

Since the onset of the 1980s, politicians have been running on the theory that the only thing governments have to do is government itself. Now that the 1980s are over, it is possible to assess the impact of that philosophy. The result has been less government and less of everything else too, except unemployment, of which there is a lot more.

In the Canada of the 1990s, our next government must have as easy time solving problems handed down by the present one. Part of this is because the problems are difficult. But the difficulty is compounded by the fact that government is no longer seen as being capable of solving problems. In fact many Canadians think government has no business even trying.

If our next government is Conservative it will run into a wall of irony. On one hand, it may as it tries to create more jobs and greater prosperity. The irony will come from the public distrust of government, having labored long and hard to convince the public that government is part of the problem, rather than part of the solution. 1980s governments have made it almost impossible for 1990s governments to take the kind of leading role that they played in more successful times.

If it were only Conservatives who were affected by the message they put out in the 1980s, the answer would be simple: throw out the Conservatives and never let them in again. But all parties have been affected. They are frightened and demoralised, afraid to act. The cause of the deficit, an economic monster movie produced and directed by Reaganites, Thatcherites and Mitterreites has troubled the sleeping and waking hours of even Liberals and New Democrats. And the notion of taxation, a possible weapon with which to attack the deficit, seems equally problematic to all of them.

Charles Givens is a columnist with The Ottawa Citizen.

*A smart government
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The consequences, as projected by the liberal American historian Arthur Schlesinger Jr., are not encouraging.

"Having designated government as the cause and having produced a deficit as large as he is to block further social spending, Reagan had also persuaded voters of the wisdom of reducing the deficit by raising taxes. Schlesinger wrote in an analysis of the U.S. presidential election: 'By making the advocacy of tax increases a formula for political suicide, Reagan may have succeeded in depriving his successors of some of the tools needed to do their job.'"

Fear of offending governments that are bolstering elections has caused all manner of strange political behavior. While the deficit grows and embarks checks social services across the country, otherwise sensible politicians preside, with many a moral quiver, over a booming lottery business. Lotteries were once considered, in some respect, karmic, a bet on the good. Now, they

predecessors of the literates go to support households, which would not need literates to support them if governments had not been conditioned to believe that the words "tax" and "spend" were dirty.

To give you an idea how far the fever has spread, the Ontario government of Bob Rae, successor to several generations of Baptist, Presbyterian and Methodist preachers of the social gospel, is about to establish gambling casinos. The justification: they will create jobs and attract tourists.

To be fair to the Ontario New Democrats, the idea has caused a split in the party. Fittingly enough, the attack on the cabinet is led by an anti-backbencher who happens to be a clergyman, although an Anglican.

Outrage from within the party may yet convince him to try something else and, give him credit, he is able occasionally to summon outrage from other than members of his own party, as when he put a 10-per-cent tax on wine imported by independent buyers. People can argue the rights and wrongs of this one, but it at least achieves what should be one of the objectives of rice policy—it answers the self-loathing.

In this, law and other political issues may take comfort from the United States, where imposing the well-to-do seems to have been adopted as a tactic by the new President, Bill Clinton. Clinton told a radio audience only this much: that "the privileged few" paid lower taxes on higher real incomes in the Reagan Bush years, and that "we're going to ask them now to pay their fair share, along with corporations whose tax burden has been drastically reduced in the past 12 years."

Chatterbox agrees with that, it may be easier for leaders in this country not to be such babies. They will go, further, courage if the deficit can be made smaller, less frightening, to them and to the voters. That will not be impossible. First, it is necessary to recognize that the deficit will never go down. That is one of the lessons of the Conservative governments of the 1980s. People who hear the deficit more than say "down"—more that poverty, more than unemployment—can't make the deficit go down. Just the deficit won't go down. Further, as we have seen, various attempts to make it go down, through cuts and downsizing, only inflame the sector.

Since the deficit will not go away, a smart 1996 government's only course of action is to seem to attack it. It can do this by using creative statistics-keeping to measure the deficit in some new way that causes it to seem lower when looked at from the proper angle. Failing that, the government can stop talking about the deficit altogether.

The people will not object to that. The people are tired of hearing about the deficit. At due time, after the deficit has not been talked about for a few years, some future finance minister can step forward and declare the battle won—just as the United States announced that it had won the Vietnam War when it was kind of *schlimm*.

Once that's done, governments can put the 1990s behind them and make at least a honest attempt to help people who need it. It could be a slogan for the 1990s: take care of people, not money.

SEXUAL OVERTONES

**AS THE RUMOR
MILL CHURNS, A
ONETIME LIBERAL
GOLDEN BOY TRIES
TO REASSERT HIS
LEADERSHIP**

A B.C. Liberal Leader Gordon Wilson prepared to meet with 22 provincial riding association presidents in Burnaby last week, a long-awaited crisis was coming to a head for weeks. Wilson's leadership has been under intense attack from within his own party, brought on by his inability to quell published rumors that he is having an extramarital affair with Judy Tybirk, a 26-year-old member of the legislature assembly who he appointed house leader in November. The controversy has thrown the opposition Liberals into turmoil, with one M.L.A. boycotting caucus meetings and causing chaos. David Jarvis, who supports Wilson, warning loud whether the association presidents were going "to ride us or kiss us." The evening ultimately promised Wilson with some badly needed relief, all but one of the presidents signed a pledge of allegiance to the leader. But still, the campaign from within did not let up. And just four days later, after a week-end meeting with his 16-member caucus, Wilson yielded reluctantly bowing to pressure, he named Tybirk to her position. Said the embattled leader: "I'm respectful of the caucus wishes on this and now I'm going to proceed forward."

It was an unexpected turn of events. After the Burnaby victory, a confident Wilson had declared "that the people at the grassroots level are saying, 'Enough is enough. We elected this leader—let's get on with the job.'" And now, barely before his caucus meeting, he vigorously signed Tybirk, saying that he had no intention of firing her as house leader. Tybirk herself appeared shaken as she told reporters after the meeting, "who she attended?" "I honestly don't know why there was a change made." But the move could put Wilson on a better footing for the leadership review at the

Liberals' annual convention in Vancouver, from April 30 to May 2. The party's constitution stipulates that no less than 30 per cent of the delegates can force a leadership race. And until that matter is settled, Wilson and Liberals will be unable to turn their undivided attention back to the business of governing. Premier Michael Ballantyne's 16-month-old new government.

But in Wilson's remarks to Markham's last week made it clear that once Tybirk's departure from the house leadership will not totally resolve his controversial diatribe. Although the 46-year-old Liberal leader has come under increasing pressure from within his party to get his personal life in order, Wilson told Markham that he plans to separate as early as this week from his wife of 21 years, Elizabeth.

The downward spiral in Wilson's political fortunes has been surprising to his critics and supporters. In 1987, the former community-college teacher took over the leadership of a party that had more than \$700,000 and had not won a seat since 1905. But the Liberals benefited from the disintegration of the Social Credit party under then-Premier William Vander Zant, and from Wilson's own populist appeal. When Harewood's New Democratic Party won a majority in the October 1991 election, the Liberals—largely on the strength of Wilson's vigorous performance as a television leader's debate—rallied into official opposition status, winning 15 seats to the Social Reform in Victoria's 76-seat legislature.

But while the maelstrom of rumors quietly labor to restore their credibility, the Liberals have been distracted by in-fighting and money at their leader. House leaders began when he campaigned against last year's 61st-Charlton's controversial decision, in 98, per cent of which voted to reject the proposal, but a



Wilson, Tybirk (right) fired under party pressure

brought Wilson into conflict with his then-house leader David Mitchell, a supporter of the accord. The swiftness of Wilson's departure—suggested after official opposition status, winning 15 seats to the Social Reform in Victoria's 76-seat legislature.

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in the 1990 election. But her elevation angered some other Liberal M.L.A.s, who privately told the media that the young mother lacked the needed experience. They also began to fear rumors that she and Wilson were having an affair—speculation that became public in June, any when Tybirk's husband, 37-year-old supermarket clerk Kim Spangue, confirmed that the couple had separated after four years of marriage and were haggling over custody of their three children. Days after that announcement, there were published reports that Wilson and

view with Markham's last week, she attributed the rumors about an affair to Liberals who are unhappy with Wilson's leadership. "It's a fact that there are those out there saying this as an excuse to make comments about Gordon Wilson's leadership," she said. At her husband, declared Tybirk, "What bothers me is the suggestion that because I am a young woman, I would be in that position for reasons other than competence. And yet no one is saying that I haven't done the job."

Initially, the firm public denials seemed to silence the whispers. But they re-emerged within days, when Wilson pointedly refused to rule out any future romantic involvement with Tybirk. "I am not going to give an unequivocal statement on that question," Wilson emphatically told Markham. "Because of the fact that I will very soon be separated and single, and that job may be separated and single, I am not going to say what my future is. It is not to give an unequivocal statement, one way or the other, and I didn't live up to it. For sure it would be dropped out prior to the next election."

That argument has already spawned further problems for the Liberals. After Wilson once caucus members told reports to defend his actions, Liberal M.L.A. Gary Powell-Cotton resigned as party whip and as a member of the party's senior strategy committee. "I told him he can choose to be present or to be a part of a relationship sometime in the future, but not both," said Powell-Cotton. "I'm willing to walk to the edge of the cliff with him, but I'm not going to jump."

The dissatisfaction with Wilson has once again spread from the caucus to some members of the party rank. Constance Seaton, president of the Burnaby-Tybirk riding association, says that Wilson's behavior demonstrates a lack of sound political judgment. "It's a bit of a betrayal to trust the promise of a new age and for her own," she said.

To sustain his job, Wilson will have to convince B.C. Liberals such as Spangue that he deserves a chance to resolve the controversy away from Harewood. Tybirk insists that the controversy is subjective of a party going through "some very painful and public growing pains." But the episode, with its flurry of leaks and innuendos and its outbursts of backstabbing, has already shown how unforgiving politics can be when it collides with personal lives. If people believe the rumors, Tybirk said, they will assume that "I'm not really authentic. I'm willing to sacrifice anything and do anything to get ahead, and that's not people like this." Added Tybirk: "It's a terrible thing." Like thousands of Canadians, Wilson's Tybirk now have to grapple with the emotional pain of marital breakdown. The dilemma is that they will do so under the relentless glare of the public.

HAL QUINN is in Vancouver

National Notes

FREE FOR NOW

Canadian readers: Gail Marin returned to her Quasqueton, Ont., home, after being freed on \$700,000 bail, pending the appeal of his July 1990 conviction. Marin, 33, was sentenced to life in prison—with no chance of parole for 25 years—for the sex slaying of a nine-year-old Christine Jenson, his next-door neighbor. Ontario Court of Appeal Judge Marvin Gauthier said that he took the amount of releasing a convicted killer because Marin poses no threat to society and because he has reasonable grounds for his appeal, which is expected to be heard in about two years.

ENDING A TRAGEDY

The 590 residents of Darby Dale, a remote, farm community near by Woodstock and Georgetown, will be allowed to relocate closer to their traditional hunting grounds or the Labrador mainland, the Indian Affairs ministry announced.

BURNISHING SHOOTINGS

A gang of teenagers in Fort Myers, Fla., seriously wounded a 50-year-old Canadian, Que. A man—shooting him in the back during a robbery. Two other Canadians have been murdered in Florida in the past two months.

BACKING DOWN

Under opposition pressure, Employment Minister Bernard Valcourt withdrew his support for a plan to encourage people to return to supervisory jobs by offering them insurance. But Valcourt remains committed to forcing benefits to people who quit jobs without a valid reason.

CROSBY'S GRIPS

Queen's critics and opposition M.P. Elizabeth Filkins Minister John Crosbie for playing about annual harassment in a speech in Vancouver, N.S. Defending the government's proposed changes to unemployment insurance provisions, Crosbie said: "Apparently, it should be anybody who quits their job by being sexually harassed. We must have a hell of a lot of attractive people working." said Mr. Crosbie. Back labelled the minister a "Crosby-seen."

TRIOBLE AT THE BAYCH

Justice Minister Pierre Boudre appointed former Conservative party president Norman Waples to the Manitoba Court of Queen's Bench, a day after Waples resigned from his federal. Manitoba opposition parties criticized the appointment because Waples, 54, has not practiced law for 15 years.

L.A. LAW AND ORDER

There are few visible reminders of the riot that erupted in south-central Los Angeles 30 months ago, and it could be a relief. The empty lots at sites where looting blazed in April are now neatly fenced. Grass pushes through cracks in the bare concrete foundations, softening the scorch marks with hopeful displays of green. At the corner of Normandie and Florence avenues, where the crowds began, enterprising local residents have turned the site into a makeshift market. They have set up tables displaying two recent items: imported billboards for roofing, drain-clearing and baby-sitting services. A liquor store and a gun shop have reopened on either corner.

But the city's peaceful atmosphere in the working-class neighborhood of brick and stucco bungalows is haunted by a growing anxiety. With two racially charged and riot-related court cases now coming to trial, many residents clearly fear that unpopular verdicts could spark renewed, and possibly even more violent, conflict. Special education instructor Rodney Watson, 39, and Mark, 34, joined for a moment while shopping for groceries on Florence Ave. to echo a view that is easily heard in the neighborhood: "It's going to be worse this time. There's going to be a lot more shooting, a lot more fighting, and killing."

Many of his fellow Angelenos say that they

LOS ANGELES BRACES FOR MORE VIOLENCE AS TWO RACIALLY CHARGED ASSAULT CASES GO TO TRIAL

previously hope Vietnam is wrong. But most acknowledge sharing at least his superstitions as the city firms with what many see as a game of double-barreled Russian roulette. In the first of two explosive sets of court proceedings, jurors are being selected to hear evidence at the trial of four city policemen charged with violating the civil rights of black motorist Rodney King. It is the second trial for the white officers, who were captured on videotape in March 1991, as they repeatedly struck and kicked King while screaming him after a car chase.

The officers' acquittal last spring on charges of assaulting King was the spark that set off

four days of nationwide rioting, in which more than 50 people died. On the first day of that violence, dozens upon dozens captured a looting on videotape—black students attacking white truck driver Reginald Denny. On March 10, the first of six men charged in connection with that assault also goes on trial. Verdicts in both high-profile cases are likely to coincide with the first anniversary of last year's upheaval.

The tension surrounding the two trials pervades widely differing interpretations as to why the city still polarized over last year's traumatic events. At least some white residents accuse blacks of using the threat of more riots to put pressure on the courts in the two cases. Reginald Denny, who called to last Steve Edwards' attention talk show on KABC Radio, "It's like the minority community has said, 'We're going to riot if these guys [the police officers] are not found guilty.' " That editor urged Los Angeles city officials to mobilize the National Guard in advance of any verdicts, in order to deter another outbreak of riot-related violence.

But for many among Los Angeles' black, Latino and Asian-American minorities, the two cases have become litmus tests for a judicial system that they consider to be racially biased. Like many of his employees in south-central Los Angeles, liquor-store manager Anthony Rileyman refers to the events of April as a riot but

as "the uprising." Said Ephraim of the spending trial: "Everyone already knows that the brothers are going to get justice. But the issue is, you can't protect the brothers and let the officers off."

Rev. Laurence Jackson, associate minister at the neighborhood's First African Methodist

Episcopal Church, also fears the verdict may spark a racial backlash. According to Jackson, the trials may well end up sending a void message: "but it is an attempt to beat upon a black American, but it is not all right to beat upon a white American." Indeed, legal experts familiar with the circumstances of both cases say that just such outcomes are possible—and even probable—what have come to be known locally as "Rodney King" and the trial of "The 144." If those verdicts emerge, says Jackson, "then there goes the city up in smoke."

Los Angeles city officials have taken steps in the past year to try to ensure that they are better prepared for violent outbreaks. Their efforts have been concentrated on the city's heavily criticized police department, the vestige of its officers pursuing King with batons has become internationally notorious, and the department responded sluggishly to the initial outbreaks of looting and vandalism that followed the acquittal. In the wake of news reports commissioned after the verdicts, Mayor Tom Bradley ordered officers beginning with the replacement, in June, of police Chief Daryl Gates, a sharp-tongued white chief executive, with the more diplomatic Willie Williams, a black.

The new chief has reorganized the troubled department, giving a new emphasis on good relations with the public—especially minorities. Indeed, Commander David Gascón of the force's Community Affairs Group is eager to publicize the fact that officers of African, Asian, Latin American, Filipino and Indian extraction make up nearly 40 per cent of the department's ranks—although first accused for only 25 per cent of minor offenses, about halfhearted. Declared Gascón: "We recognize that not everyone out there is a criminal." In addition to standard riot-control training, members of the 7,700-member force are undergoing a special two-day instruction course on how to control what he calls "unusual occurrences" with greater restraint. Even in the midst of riots, Gascón added, officers "have to understand



Brooklyn: King raging in south-central L.A. last April (right: Russian consulate)

World Notes

WANTED: SINGLE WHITE FEMALES

After two false starts, President Bill Clinton nominated Duke County, Va., prosecutor David Rizzo, 54, as his attorney general. Clinton's first nominee, corporate lawyer Joe Beert, resigned himself from consideration last month after she acknowledged that she had broken the law by having illegal affairs in domestic help. Then, New York federal Judge Kimba Wood withdrew because she, too, had employed an illegal alien as a typewriter. Rizzo is single and has no children.

BACK TO VIETNAM

On the first visit to Vietnam by a Western head of state since the end of the Vietnam War, French President François Mitterrand proclaimed a new era in bilateral relations and pledged to double France's financial aid to the southern Asian country. Mitterrand also urged the United States to lift its economic embargo on Vietnam, which France lifted for nearly a century until 1994.

A RIGHT TO DIE

The Dutch parliament passed a law allowing euthanasia for terminally ill patients in the Netherlands—the first modernized country to take the action. Set to take effect in 1994, the law guarantees doctors immunity from prosecution if they follow strict guidelines for patient killing.

WHITE HOUSE PINK SHIPS

In a sign of his commitment to reduce government spending, President Bill Clinton announced that he will cut 350 of about 1,400 White House staff jobs by October. Clinton also ordered the elimination of 100,000 government jobs, through attrition, over the next four years and deep cuts in off-budget perks.

ITALIAN SCANDAL

Justice Minister Ciriaco De Mita resigned from his post and the Italian Socialist Party after he learned that he was under investigation on corruption charges. Socialist leader Bettino Craxi also resigned. The two men were the latest figures involved in a pending bribery scandal that has led to the arrest of dozens of politicians and businessmen.

HOSTAGE DRAMA

An 11-hour hijack ordeal ended peacefully with the surrender of a man armed with a sniper's pistol. Authorities said that 20-year-old Ethiopian Nelson Bewide Desalegn was considered a Lushanese passenger en route to Australia, forcing the pilot to fly to New York City where he is expected to demand political asylum.

that we don't suspend the rules; these are professional standards, a fiscal standard." At the same time, the rise in private groups have responded to the economic frustrations that helped fuel terrorism of a year ago. When days of the rioting, which caused an estimated \$5 billion in damage, Bradley and California Gov. Pete Wilson appeared together to encourage the construction of a "peace corridor" intended "to restore the health and vitality of Los Angeles." Under the high-profile chairmanship of former mayor-Judge Harold Greutmann, Rebuild LA has frantically, quickly assembling a staff of 25, with 11 different Action Team Peers. Lasting agreements that it says are planned by more than 20 large companies and organizations, Rebuild LA claims that it has attracted "more than \$300 million in necessary investments." Still, critics say that those commitments have produced few visible results in high unemployment areas like the southwest Los Angeles. Legions of volunteers have been recruited to the effort to revitalize (above). Black unemployment in its community with a disclaimer: "I can't see more of the looting working."

Even some supporters of Greutmann's organization express doubts about its effectiveness. "We can see things that are happening, but it's not too slow," declared Jackson. In an effort to get more help for the unemployed in its neighborhood, his church launched its own rebuilding project in August, called LA Renaissance. Last month, the organization, funded largely by a \$1-million donation from Walt Disney Corp., granted the first of what it hopes will become a flood of up-called micro-loans of \$3,000 to \$20,000 to local entrepreneurs. The total response has gratified the church's members, says Jackson, although he quickly acknowledges that "it's not going to be enough."

For Bradley, a veteran politician whose office proudly displays a silver-tipped "Minsky Mugger's" award, granted last year by California entrepreneur Doug Henwood, there are few tricks left to try. After more than two decades in office, Bradley is scheduled to retire in November. A credited field of mostly little-known candidates (acutely nicknamed the LA-10) is jockeying to replace him. With his long political career, Bradley estimated 28 "peace moves," as he describes them, called from the city's diverse minority groups. These tried to encourage tolerance among the city's three-and-a-half million race and apprehensive groups.

In the south-central area, Bradley has an ally in the city's oldest black-owned radio station. Like many other minority-owned businesses, station owner, Mrs. J. J. Wilson, has been trying to prevent renewed violence. The station, which follows a Motown and rhythm and blues format, has lost a fifth of its commercial revenues since rioters looted many of the black-owned neighborhood retail stores that advertised on its airwaves, many community affairs director Martha Jackson argues that black radio is at the city's oldest black-owned radio station.

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Violence on videotape



Tappings of the beatings of Rodney King (top) and Reginald Denny have drawn attention to a system that many among Los Angeles minorities consider to be racially biased

assure that they are the ones who will suffer the most should there be renewed violence after the trials. She added: "They realize that the people in south-central, who actually live there, are the real victims." At the same time, police Chief William J. Bratton made it plain that his reinforced force will be better prepared to contain the anger. In addition to what police representatives claim as improved training to crowd-control tactics, the force has acquired new, reinforced armaments for riot control, including proper spray and

rubber bullets of the type the British army has used in Northern Ireland. Despite a commitment to better police relations, asserted Garmen, "You can't tolerate people throwing Molotov cocktails, you can't tolerate people shooting, you can't tolerate people looting. And we won't tolerate it."

That tough attitude leaves many members of the community fearing for police violence. Store manager Ephraim, for one, says that he still expects the police to assault the neighborhood at the end of the trial—with too much force and too little patience. "The police," he predicts, "are going to come out with the attitude, 'We're going to strap these niggers—o-o-o.' And whatever police attitudes may be, the force has clearly not yet established that its new tactics can contain violence peacefully. Amid December confrontation between police and black demonstrators in support of the trial, degenerated into a street brawl at the corner of Florence and Normandie.

In neighborhoods far removed from that troubled intersection, last year's unrest also has shaken over the weeks about other minorities as well. Although April's burned erupted first in black neighborhoods, it quickly spread to Latino, Korean and other areas. Although many races were represented among the looters, the largest number of those arrested were Latinos, the city's second-largest minority. For them, economic frustration played a larger role in spawning the violence than did racial tensions, says Gloria Ramirez, a psychology professor at California State University-Los Angeles and an adviser to the city police commission on Latino concerns. But Ramirez says that Latinos share black residents' anger at pervasive racial inequalities. She added: "It's almost impossible to see the racial aspect in Los Angeles and not get angry."

Nevertheless, Ramirez acknowledges that despite the cost in lives and property, last year's conditions upheaval was not entirely a civic disaster. Instead, she says, it may have been avoided. Among the shaking in the police department and new efforts to bring protesters in poor neighborhoods, Ramirez says, the city is a wake-up call to its law enforcement. She says they were a reminder "that we do have bad systems in the United States." He and his neighbors are living in hope that a second alarm will not be necessary.

CHIEF WOOD in Los Angeles

BOSNIA

Balkan standoff

Washington joins efforts to enforce peace

Once upon a time, the United States has been engaged reluctantly into a war in Europe. But America's response, for now, it may not be diplomatic, not military. Secretary of State Warren Christopher announced last week that Washington would try to negotiate an end to the savage 10-month-old conflict in Bosnia—and then help to enforce the peace. To this end, Christopher packed ambassadors to NATO Regional Conference to be the new U.S. special envoy to Bosnia.

Bosnian violence nearly drew to Moscow to assist Russia support for the delicate maneuvering that lies ahead. Before leaving NATO headquarters in Brussels, Bartholomew announced that "everybody knows this is a tough problem."

There was widespread support for the six-point U.S. plan to end the chaos in the former Yugoslav republic, where at least 70,000 people have been killed and two million made homeless since the outbreak of war last April. Genoa's Chancellor Helmut Kohl and that American diplomatic intervention would stabilize the prospects for peace. International mediators Britain's Lord Owen and America's Gen. Vance and that they were particularly pleased by Washington's pledge to help enforce the peace. In Congress, both Democrats and Republicans endorsed the administration's objectives, which include tighter sanctions against Serbia, enforcement of a UN-mandated no-fly zone over Bosnia and the creation of a UN war-crimes tribunal.

Even the leaders of Bosnia's warring Serbs, Croats and Muslims approved the prospect of American intervention, but the news had on the battlefield. In fact, as Bartholomew boarded his plane for Moscow, Bosnian Serb and Muslim forces around Sarajevo were engaged in some of the heaviest fighting in months. Mortar, machine-gun and anti-aircraft fire rained on the streets of Sarajevo, which is under a UN-mandated no-fly zone, and in the capital's airport, where mortars killed a French soldier serving with a UN peacekeeping unit and wounded three of his comrades. Other peacekeepers and UN civilian workers died for cover.

The starting point for the latest, U.S.-led round of peace talks will likely be the proposal put together by Owen and Vance to five months

of armistice, often across-the-board ceasefire driving Bosnia into 30 autonomous provinces, each of which would have a dominant ethnic group. Only the Croats have accepted that solution, and American officials earlier said that they had reservations about it. However, Bartholomew and before leaving Brussels that "we want to work with the Vance-Owen plan."

The stiffest opposition to the Vance-Owen map and the most serious reaction to the



Gathering around as a Sarajevo cemetery scene of the heaviest fighting in months

American support plan arose in the map Yugoslav state dominated by Serbs with Moslems as a power player. Yugoslavia has drawn the wrath of the United Nations—and economic sanctions since May—over its support for the Bosnian Serbs. The Belgrade newspaper Politika claimed last week that sanctions-induced shortages had left three million people, one-third of Serbia's population, living at subsistence levels. As the United Nations, Yugoslav Foreign Minister Ivo Djokovic said that "we are glad the Americans are coming in and are going to find directly with the crisis." However, he added: "We are satisfied at this notion of new sections. We strongly believe we do not desire it." Bosnia's Serbs, who rose in rebellion when the republic's Muslims and Croats voted for

self-preservation from Yugoslavia last April, have insisted all along that they are fighting to protect their own lands within Bosnia. Last week, Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadzic announced that he was pulling out of UN-sponsored peace talks in New York City and returning home to deal with a Muslim offensive aimed at breaching the Serbian zone of Sarajevo. He has insisted that, heavily guarded Maybach hotel rooms, he said that the Muslims had been uncooperative in the peace process "although they are backed by the international community and have done many bad things that they are not allowed to do."

Karadzic, branded as a possible war criminal by former U.S. secretary of state Lawrence Eagleburger, called for the creation of a tribunal to try people for crimes in the Second World War, the Korean War, Vietnam and Cambodia and the "victorious Yugoslav leaders." As for the Vance-Owen map, he said, it was "unacceptable" because it made no provisions

for corridors to link the Serb enclaves. In Bosnia, the United Nations says now the most difficult, and probably the longest, peace-enforcement mission in its 47-year history. There are already 7,500 UN troops in Bosnia—mostly British, French and Canadian—and Owen has said that it will take an additional 25,000 to police the autonomous regions. Five thousand of those troops, he suggested, should come from the United States. With the United States now daily involved, the chances for peace in Bosnia have been substantially increased. And if the Russians join the quest it will likely succeed—sooner or later.

BOB CORRELL and ARLEY WACKENZEE in New York City



MacMillan Bloedel operations in Port Alberni, B.C.: the significance of the deals extends far beyond their cash value

BUSINESS

BAY STREET'S BONANZA

On Feb. 21, after the North American stock markets had closed, they began to work the phones. When members of the group of Toronto investment dealers finished their hours later, they had sold off most of the controlling shares in one of Canada's best-known corporations, logging and entertainment conglomerate John Labatt Ltd. In a series of speedy and astute transactions, the dealer syndicate had paid Toronto-based insurance, real estate and financial services conglomerate Bancorp Ltd. \$923 million for its 37.3-per-cent stake in Labatt and would in—soon before the public learned about the change the next morning. The strong investor interest in the company was especially noticeable because the Labatt shares went onto the market only two days after an even bigger offering. On Feb. 8, the same group of bankers had sold 49 per cent of the shares in direct products giant MacMillan Bloedel Ltd. of Vancouver to the same client list in even less time. That \$917-million deal, which reversed counsel of MacMillan Bloedel from the hands of

THE EDPER EMPIRE SELLS CONTROL OF ASSETS TO RAISE \$2 BILLION IN CASH TO REDUCE MARKET ANXIETY AND DEBT

Noranda Forest Ltd., was the largest of its kind in the history of Canadian capital markets. The historical significance of the two deals, however, extends far beyond their combined \$1.84-billion value.

Indeed, the sale of MacMillan Bloedel and Labatt by the Toronto-based Hens-Edper corporate empire clearly marks the end of an era. After more than a decade as the most diverse

and acquisitive force in the Canadian economy, the Edper group is now—literally—losing control. The Bloedel family and its senior managers have come under mounting pressure and scrutiny from bankers, regulators and disgruntled minority shareholders to address the financial leverage of their complex structure. By selling assets, the group has made a clear attempt to raise capital, reducing both debt and uncertainty. According to group spokesman Senator Trevor Elyan, Edper has now demonstrated the real value in its "transient trust."

Despite the determination of Elyan and other Edper managers to present their group as "seller-proof" following last week's asset sales, analysts noted that several mitigating factors dampen those deals. For one thing, the best assets have been sold off. Second, the entire corporate finance structure, on condition of anonymity. "These are the glacial sales, the only ones. What follows will be much uglier and much harder," Edper group managers freely say as they are planning any

additional asset sales—although they insist that the Labatt and MacMillan Bloedel sales were only a response to exceptionally attractive offers from the Street. Edper, however, will openly accept a vision for its financially troubled trust company, Royal Trustco Inc.

Another influence on the sale of MacMillan Bloedel and Labatt is the current strong demand for stock among large institutional investors. According to federal guidelines, 49 per cent of the shares owned by pension and other funds must be Canadian, a requirement that has led to a flood of foreign money coming to focus on domestic markets. In addition, as interest rates have declined and the recovery has shown some signs of recovery, many investors are once again looking to the stock market for higher returns on their capital. Another consideration is that stocks in independent, established Canadian operating companies trade easily and usually command a premium price in the market. As a result, when they were free of their debt status at the bottom of the Edper corporate pyramid, both MacMillan Bloedel and Labatt proved highly attractive to investors. "I have just placed the biggest order of my career," said one Toronto investment counselor. "Not only has Labatt, but Hens-Edper control is a easy going to be worth 100 per cent in the price up ahead."

Certainly not all the companies in the group are as stable. Indeed, signs of stress in the Edper pyramid have become increasingly difficult to disguise because the group is heavily exposed to such recession-sensitive sectors as real estate and natural resources. Late last year, Edper-controlled real estate developer Bonanza Ltd. sought court protection from creditors to restructure its \$545-million debt load. Last month, Royal Trust announced that it was looking for an outside investor to provide it with a capital infusion. Other Edper affiliates, including Calgary-based real estate company Trans Ltd., are also suffering from the dramatic decline in North American real estate values.

The financial setbacks suffered by several Edper companies have, according to corporate handling sources, resulted in growing pressure on the group. Canadian bankers have been increasingly nervous about their corporate loan portfolio after a number of high-profile business failures, including the Richman

family's real estate development firm Olympia & York Developments Ltd. In the past year, at the same time as bankers have tightened the supply of corporate credit, several key Edper companies have also suffered a sequence of credit rating downgrades. That has made it more difficult for the group to raise operational capital and other short-term money-market instruments in an otherwise tight bank debt.

In step with that capital squeeze, investor confidence in the group and its managers has diminished. As a result, there would be little attempt to sell any new issues of equity or debt if the Edper managers attempted to raise any additional funds from the public. Indeed, a recent \$250-million issue of Bonanza convertible debentures fell far below its original price of \$16 within weeks of being sold by investment bankers, largely to individual retail shareholders. One veteran Toronto-based trader, who spoke on condition of anonymity, "The whole Bonanza group has been turned into a playground for speculators. The only people left are those who are selling for chaos and betting on when the market will say 'enough'."

Mounting concern about the wider implications of Edper's volatility has led to open scrutiny by federal regulators, as well as the federal finance department. On the same day that Edper announced the sale of MacMillan Bloedel last week, Michael Markstein, federal superintendent of financial institutions, issued a request that all banks and trust companies under his jurisdiction submit detailed reports of their outstanding Hens-Edper loans, as well as any investments in the companies' numerous public equity and debt issues. According to preliminary estimates prepared by investment analysts, the Edper group of companies has issued as much as \$25 billion in equity and debt, and outside lenders and investors may hold as much as \$30 billion.

It also emerged last week that growing uneasiness about the potential collapse of Hens-Edper and the 8-man department to launch its own review of the group's financial resources. Following the spectacular failure of OMI a year ago, Ottawa may be concerned about maintaining the attractiveness of the capital markets as well as Canada's asset with foreign investors. Recent concern about government debt levels and political stability has contributed to a more cautious tone in the Canadian strategies of major Japanese investors.

Despite persistent speculation that the sale of MacMillan Bloedel and Labatt is a response to outside pressures, company managers throughout the empire vigorously deny it. Instead, they are carefully emphasizing what appears to be the new Hens-Edper control, small and strong is best. Although their were

Business Notes

SHOPPING FOR TIME

A U.S. investment banker is looking to take control of the larger supermarket chain in Quebec, Uniqo Inc. is a deal valued at more than \$1 billion, Bouchette Capital Partners is looking for control of the company, including the 26 per cent currently owned by Uniqo Inc., and would list it on the public market by 2000. The proposed transaction would allow Uniqo to reduce its debt before reacquiring its Uniqo holding in the future. Before the deal proceeds, it needs provincial government approval.

A GENERAL LOSS

General Motors Corp. of Detroit has reported a total loss of \$29.1 billion—or \$47.56 a share—for 1992. It is the largest corporate loss ever reported. The loss included \$18.7 billion in investment-related obligations that a new accounting standard requires from publicly listed corporations. Earlier in the week, Ford Motor Co. reported a \$9.2-billion loss for 1992. As in the case of GM, extensive accounting changes were mainly responsible.

STELLMAKERS BUDDLE

Stellen Inc. of Hamilton posted a \$127-million loss on revenue of \$3.2 billion for 1992. It was the steel producer's third annual financial loss and it compares with a loss of \$126 million on revenue of \$1.3 billion in 1991. The company announced 756 jobs at the end of last year. Also last week, Algoma Steel Ltd. of Sault Ste. Marie reported a loss of \$74.1 million in its first seven months of operation after a major restructuring.

PUMPING GAS

TrustCanada PipeLines Ltd. of Calgary has announced plans to build a 320-km pipeline to feed natural gas to New England. The new line will connect with the existing Quebec Gas Transmission system in mid-state New York and run northeast across southern Vermont and Massachusetts to a location near Boston. The cost of the project will be up to \$446.4 million. The system will have an initial capacity of 550 million cubic feet of gas.

EXPERIENCE ESSENTIAL

Paul Richman, former head of his family's oil estate empire, Olympia & York Developments Ltd. (OYD) of Toronto, has bought a 50 per cent stake in U.S. energy giant Enbridge Inc. Richman will manage a \$600-million real estate investment fund. The financial restructuring of Enbridge (ENB) was completed and approved by an Ontario court in early February.

widespread concern about the \$2-billion debt of Noranda Forest, which sold the stake to MacMillan Bloedel, corporate president Linn Macdonald said that there was no pressure to sell. He added that the "ongoing model" was an unexcused purchase offer from the lender—Lazard Freres—and that MacMillan Bloedel always "There was no pressure from senior Edger executives to sell," he said.

Industry analysts, however, say that they remain skeptical of that explanation. Clearly, the company could have considered a better price for MacMillan Bloedel if it had waited for the turbulent forest-products sector to recover. Macdonald told Maclean's "It was a life-or-death decision. If we waited until commodity prices improved and the shares got higher, there would have been less potential capital opportunities for investors."

Although the sudden sale of MacMillan Bloedel apparently took some analysts by surprise, Lohr, by contrast, has traditionally been considered a candidate for sale. Speculation about a sale of control to a U.S. investor increased last year following the company's wholesale corporate restructuring, which featured the spinning off of several unrelated forest assets, including dairy and bakery divisions. At the time, one analyst said that Edger was "cleaning up" Lohr to make it more attractive to a purchaser like U.S. lender JPMorgan Chase & Co. When Lohr's board of directors declared an \$850 million special dividend to distribute the proceeds of recent sales directly to shareholders in September, however, investors began to focus even more on the Edger group's apparent need for cash. As the owner of the 27.9-per-cent controlling interest in Lohr, because was the largest stock beneficiary of the payout, receiving almost \$90 million in cash.

Although the Lohr special dividend is not especially controversial in itself, indications are that the company may have acted under direct or indirect pressure from its controlling shareholders. And that is one of the most enduring reasons that analysts have about the intertwined Edger-Edger structure. Critics of the group have frequently claimed that as long as Edger held majority stakes in most companies, it could pressure directors and senior key strategic decisions, including dividend policy, accounting practices and financial planning. Said Donald Thon, a corporate director and business professor at the University of Western Ontario in London: "If you're not in bed and in bed, you can't get all sorts of agendas on the directors because you appointed them." He added, "That leads to loss

national, professional management careers."

At large blocks of stock are sold into the hands of institutional investors, some observers suggest that the role of professional money managers in Canada may be altered over time. Then, for cost, added that there is "a huge shift of power to the institutions" and several are starting to follow the U.S. example by taking a longer interest in the management issues affecting the companies in which they have significant investments. But Peter de Juar, a pension fund manager with Gairth Hydro in Toronto said that, except in cases where an investor management directly affects the value of an investment, he does not expect to become more involved in corporate governance matters. "Portfolio managers are trained to measure return and manage risks," he said. "Very few have an appropriate opera-

tionaries to Toronto publishing magazine Cinda Black's Hollinger Inc. for \$250 million. As well, Woodbridge Co. Ltd. sold 40 per cent of its holding in the Macdon's Toy Co. as the market, thus reducing its stake in Hobbins's Bay to 25 per cent from 46 per cent. Said Thon: "The same with financial leverage, the game is now to bid yourself out before the banks get you."

Whatever role the banks may have played in last week's developments, a new line of public ownership will clearly bring about several changes at both MacMillan Bloedel and Lohr. Edger-appointed directors are expected to resign from both corporate boards, leaving several key positions. Despite a public protest, which institutional shareholders lodged in 1991 over the small number of independent directors, Edger-appointed appointments have



Lohr's brewing plant in Toronto heightens speculation that the company was on the block

ing or management background that would justify tampering in a business."

Thon said that he is appointed the overall return of companies in the hands of a broader base of shareholders—a trend that gathered momentum with the sales of MacMillan Bloedel and Lohr. In the past 18 months, a growing list of Canadian corporations, forced to raise cash, repay debts and refinance their operations during the recession have turned over their controlling shares to capital markets. Last year alone, Noranda reduced its investment in Alcan's Gold Mines Inc., while IBC Inc. sold off its equity investments in TransCanada PipeLines Ltd. and Syncrude Inc. In the same period, Southern Bell sold a 26-per-cent stake in Tarrant Corp. to a leveraged syndicate led by ABC Securities Inc. Tarrant is now sold at 22.6-per-cent stake in

continued to dominate Lohr's board. At MacMillan Bloedel, five of 26 directors have Edger affiliations and the company is currently considering candidates to replace them, according to Arthur Granger, senior vice-president of Boucher and administrative.

Despite any adjustments ahead, senior executives at both companies appeared to be enthusiastic about their release from the Edger-Edger complex. George Taylor, president and chief executive officer of Lohr, described the sale of his company's controlling interest as "positive." He added that now that "the uncertainty about Noranda is removed, it's a relief." And for the other companies that stress under the Edger umbrella, relief may also come—eventually.

DAVID H. HENDERSON

Bronfmans under fire

The banks have to report on loans to Edger

In a two-night, sit-down deal just three days apart, Peter Bronfmans's corporate empire lost two key operating companies last week—lost \$2.5 billion in cash. The sale of Toronto Trustco, identified to "market emotions" about the sudden events. "Being another I don't see as important as being Edger," Bronfmans told Maclean's. And he acknowledged that continuing public rumors and negative speculation about the financial condition of Edger Enterprises Ltd., the complex conglomerate that he and his brother Edward control with their senior managers, have wounded him personally. "People are looking for blood, I guess," he said. "It's like Joan Rivers, whose things started to go wrong, they all pointed to her to live up on her."

In the interim, Bronfmans attempted to silence some of the Bay Street speculation. He insisted that the sale of (erstwhile) son MacMillan Bloedel Ltd. on Tuesday and John Lohr Ltd. on Friday were voluntary and not because of pressure by the group's lenders, themselves under the stern scrutiny of the federal bank regulators. "I don't say that it is easy to deal with the banks these days, for anyone," said Bronfmans. "But it is not true that the sales were the banks' idea." Instead, he said that a consortium of investment advisers had approached Edger with a proposal to attractive that the company decided it should not refuse.

The speculation that the banks were behind the sale of some of the Bronfmans' prime operating companies began last week with reports that Michael Macdonald, the supervising director of financial institutions, had sent a notice to the banks, trust companies and insurance companies that he requires entering them to disclose all their loans and other debts to companies under Edger's control. Macdonald called for detailed reports within three days. He later, Macdonald downplayed the significance of his request, saying that he had made similar ones at least six times in the past. But last Friday, he had not yet seen the reports, but he said, "I think we have a pretty decent handle on the exposure to this group."

"He declared, however, to explain why he asked for the debt disclosure last week after months of public speculation about the financial condition of the Edger group. As well, he added that he had not even heard about the Lohr's sale until November 20, after months of public speculation about its announced sale. "Have they?" he

asked, adding, "My dad worked with Lohr at one time—it gives me kind of a tongue."

Macdonald's request and the recent sales come as the Edger group is trying to find a buyer for Royal Trustco Ltd., which had been struggling to deal with growing loan-loss problems in the United States, the United Kingdom and Canada. On Jan. 20, Royal Trustco announced that it was seeking a strategic partner that might be willing to pay as much as 50 per cent of it. At that time, Bronfmans said that they hoped to be able to announce a deal by late



Macdonald: "We think we have a pretty decent handle on the exposure"

February. Two banks, the Royal Bank of Canada and the Bank of Nova Scotia, said at week's end that they are still talking to senior management of Royal Trustco and investigating Trustco for any potential, hidden problems, a process known as due diligence. Said Fredrick Billings, spokesman for the Royal: "We are still looking at it, but due diligence on a deal like this is not done in a matter of days or weeks—it is more likely going to be months."

Macdonald's request for comprehensive information about the loans outstanding to Edger is not as surprising, given the size and spread of its empire. It consists of hundreds of companies, including some of the largest publicly traded ones in Canada, including Noranda Inc., Falconbridge Ltd. and London Life Insurance Co. In addition to large amounts of interest earnings, typically close

through the purchase and sale of preferred shares in unrelated companies, Edger activities also borrowed heavily in the financial markets. Said one senior investment dealer, on condition of anonymity: "The whole empire was built on debt. In the last few years, companies like Noranda have been losing lots of money and yet are still paying out dividends and stock to come from somewhere—the question is, how much came from the banks?"

Indeed, one corporate bank suggested information might be to fire a surprise. The full exposure of Canadian financial institutions to Edger is not public knowledge, and Macdonald said that he has no plans to release it. But in November, the Toronto-Dominion Bank (TD) said that it held more than \$500 million worth of preferred shares in Edger companies in its own investment portfolio. However, bank spokesman Beverly MacLean said that the its

Bank's preferred share portfolio of Edger-controlled companies dropped to \$355 million last week after MacMillan Bloedel and Lohr were sold to the public, because their shares were no longer counted on the list of Edger-controlled companies. The corporate asset sales on the other hand, have similar effects on the other bank's debt reports to Macdonald.

But preferred shares are only one type of debt the banks hold. MacLean said that the Royal Bank will not disclose the totals for other types of debt but remove all share ownership. And other banks refuse to disclose even their preferred-share holdings. Said one senior banker: "It doesn't make sense for them to come out and disclose their exposures until they have a solution to the problem."

Meanwhile, back at the Edger offices in downtown Toronto, Peter Bronfmans downplayed the possibility of more asset sales. Said Bronfmans: "After this Royal Trustco, I don't know anything for sale in the group." But the possibility of more Woodliffing could not be far from his mind.

BRENDA DALGLEISH





Why Jean Chrétien will never be PM

BY PETER C. NEWMAN

Even though Jean Chrétien keeps assuring anyone who will listen that he wants no election, "the better the sooner," the Liberal party hardly seems ready to assume the burden of his office.

The main feature of his much heralded policy declaration last week to the Toronto Empire Club consisted of a passionate attack against the hated GST. That may be good politics, but it's lousy economics because Chrétien has no alternate program—and no escape from his own dilemma by vaguely promising that a Liberal government would study the issue after the next federal election (Originally assumed to collect an annual \$180 billion, the GST produced revenues of \$18.2 billion in the 1991-1992 fiscal year). Under today's horrendous financial circumstances there are no options, the only difference between the Liberal and Tory approaches is that as unpopular as the GST proved to be, at least the Mulroney government was more honest in making obvious sense of the tax burden they were bound to carry.

While public opinion polls will change to reflect evolving political realities, at the moment there seems little doubt that an immediate election would produce a Liberal majority under Chrétien. He became a member of Canada's House of Commons when John Kennedy was in the White House and Harold MacMillan was prime minister at England. That was senior presidents and five prime ministers ago.

There's something deeply reassuring about Chrétien's Stenographic-to-the-racism accent, his Gallic charm and that crooked smile lighting up a face that looks as if someone had been practicing roadrunner as it. But whatever reassurance that image produces cannot be tempered by a reminder of Chrétien's political shortcomings. By rising through the ranks of the Liberal party by being well liked, but on his last, aggressive, tact and holding behind his habituated caution-

In his quest for power, the Liberal leader has assumed that familiarity will breed consent. He has been around since 1963.

isms whenever he's going just tough. That's his personality in the new political he has occupied, it's quickly become clear that most of his policy initiatives have consisted of only groping towards orthodox consensus. He has yet to have an original thought.

That wouldn't matter much, because few of our political leaders indulge in such lucidity. Chrétien's real problem is that he has never been a leader. That requires very special qualities such as a highly developed sense of self-confidence and an overpowering feeling of self-worth that seems foreign to his personality and outlook. Being a nice guy just isn't enough.

In opposition, the best way to test a leader's impact is inside the party caucus. It's ironic that with the Tories in the political cat, hardly a warmer is heard among Brian Mulroney among his caucus members, while Liberal MPs and senators, whose party now tops 50 per cent in popularity, are unanimous at least about their leader, with at least a dozen vocal critics vowing to pop out of the bushes. Since he took over the Liberal party in the summer of 1989, Chrétien has not been able to mobilize his troops in any policy thrusts or even concerted attacks against the Tories. Even if it isn't entirely true, many po-

litical observers explain his high standing in the polls as a parking exercise. Canadians who tell pollsters they plan to vote Liberal, not because they do, but because they can't stand Mulroney and don't want to declare their votes as such.

The plain fact is that the Liberal party has yet to recover from Pierre Trudeau's, who dominated its every move for 15 years. On the one hand, his presence on the national and international scenes was so compelling that no one can catch his intellectual legacy. On the other hand, only a few professional GST abolitionists remember that despite his days of public glory, Trudeau left the party with a clean slate: no policies, no field organizations, no money and a shattered power base that within months would switch its allegiance to Tony Blair. The party that Chrétien inherited from John Turner was no better off, being a dispirited residue of survivors from the political wars, innocent of policy, philosophy or any other purpose except to replace Mulroney's Conservatives in power.

Trying to guess exactly where Chrétien stands on any issue depends on whether you ask him. The fabric of his political commitment is like a well, impenetrable but not transparent, serving to protect the inner curtain—yet so to respect him and his ideas to wider constituencies. His convictions (except that Tories are evil and Gerts are saints) seem credible, so that he gives the impression of profound detachment, moving through many worlds without fully belonging in any but his own.

The way he has run his party is as an instrument of accommodation of ideas that emerge like a mutated pendulum between Lloyd Axworthy on the left and Ray McLaren on the right, with Paul Martin heavily holding up the centre. This notion of brokerage politics may have worked some, but now it has an old-fashioned odor about it. No longer is it particularly desirable to juggle policies and propositions solely by their consequences.

The country is crying out for leadership. We suffer from horrendous economic and social problems, but beyond specific issues is the loss of faith in the system. Lacking the ability of purpose that allows a people to think together on fundamental issues, Canadians have become citizens of a country that seems no longer to believe in itself.

That's the challenge facing the Liberals if a day they're led by their deputy, who seems a generation or two out of time with the real world. What the Liberal party needs is a young Walter Gordon, a revolutionary proponent of change and reform, not afraid to shake his toes on groundless ideas. Not since Gordon served as minister of finance, in the early Thompson years during the mid 1930s, have the Liberals had the advantage of leading their own caucus, instead of following someone else's.

Unless Chrétien can find someone equally proactive in his own caucus, or somewhere else on the role himself, he will never become prime minister of Canada.

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A special report examines how modern teens feel about sex, drugs, their futures, their parents, their own brains and bodies — the whole exciting, confusing world they inhabit

COVER THE WORLD OF TEENS

One of the really notable achievements of the 20th century has been to make the young all before their time.
—Robertson Davis (*Twilight-Twist*, 1992)

In a taste-driven world, part sensory and part nerve, teenagers are all bombarded, awfully young, cacklingly delirious, full of promise and vapor and nerve. They wear—depending on whose memory—leather sweaters or jean jackets, saddle shoes or desert boots, bobble socks or no socks at all. Their hair is long or trash cut or buzzed. They're slumped-up old drinkers to lower-limes at drive-ins. They devour burgers and fries in plastic-walled booths, dance to hip-hop sounds before eagle-eyed chaperones up to electrified rock that blazes the sides from the moon. They are good kids, raised by good parents, and whatever crises they may confront—buses, broken hearts, failing grades—will pass like every other phase or be resolved by mom's car. But life, of course, never has been as cheery as a pop song, as wholesome as a 441 clip. And to wonder how adults may remember their own pasts, they should harbor no illusions about the present: today's teens are anything but innocent.

If the young were old in 1951, as Davies put it, they are positively ancient now. Today's youth are growing up in a time of touch-of-button technology, bombarded by the sort of information and images that, on earlier days, many adults never encountered. Many are living the reality of broken families knowing often intimate details of their parents' lives—and knowing also an odd mix of sexuality. Even when mothers and fathers remain together, they often both hold down jobs, leaving kids to take on more adult responsibilities. And in the midst of trying economic times, teens sense that their own future prospects may be waning. Not even their most personal lives are free from outside worries: theirs is the first generation in more of age in the era of AIDS. How are Canadian teens coping with all

these pressures, and just what sort of people are they? What are parents to make of grunge rock and hip-hop, of torn jeans and scraggly hair, of the fascination with the gorgeous, colorful kids of TV's *Beverly Hills 90210*? How do teens feel about sex, drugs, alcohol, consumption, their parents, their futures, their own brains and bodies—about the whole exciting, confusing world that they inhabit?

In search of the answers, *Medison's* commissioned a nationwide poll. Conducted by Toronto-based Demos Research, the tele-

• For all the cliques at AIDS awareness, more than one-third of sexually active 16- and 17-year-olds say they use a condom "only occasionally." Only 20 per cent say they use a condom every time they have sex. Older teens are even less likely to practice safe sex: only 30 per cent of sexually active 18- and 19-year-olds say they use a condom every time.

• Most 16- and 17-year-olds—64 per cent—have used alcohol and a significant number—40 per cent—have tried illegal drugs. But the frequency of alcohol and drug use begins to diminish among 18- and 19-year-olds.

• Girls seem to have a poorer self-image than boys: they are less likely to consider themselves popular or smart, and much more likely to be worried about their weight. 49 per cent of girls, compared with only 33 per cent of boys, say they have been on a diet in the past year.

• Asked about their financial prospects, teens in Atlantic Canada expressed the most optimism. British Columbian the least.

Other poll findings are highlighted throughout the package, within a series of stories on everything from self-image to street kids, pop music to teen parenthood. What becomes ever increasingly clear is that, for all the unique pressures of the moment, there is a universality to the teen experience. Principles are universal. Kids are kids, full of hopes and dreams, as complex, fascinating—and sometimes infuriating—as ever. "To our surprise," says *Medison's* senior consultant Karina Allcock, "that they still believe that if they can do almost anything they want to do. They still imagine they're going to end up married with children, they're still aspiring to the same things that kids did in the 1950s and 1960s." As a time of often head-spinning change, there is a certain comfort in that.



phone survey reached 1,500 Canadians from 12 to 19 years old, of those, 775 also mailed back more detailed questionnaires. The results—interesting and often surprising—helped provide the focus for this special report. *Alive and Kicking*.

• Forget boys will be boys: among 16- and 17-year-olds, 20 per cent of boys say they have had sexual intercourse, compared with 35 per cent of girls. The boys catch up by the time they reach 17 to 19 years of age, when nearly 60 per cent of all teens say they have had sex.

BOB LEVIN

THE POWER OF YOUTH

OUTSTANDING TEENS ARE ON THE MOVE

Across the country, foreigners are making contributions to their communities. Madelon's reputation talked to 20 young people whose achievements make a positive difference in the life of Canada.

A DREAM IN GOLD

the game over a coffeehouse. With less than 100 minutes left in the watershed final at Banffville, the Canadian women held only a one-point lead over their U.S. opponents, but a decisive changeover. But the decisive play led to win 25-30, clinching Canada's first gold medal in the sport. And for 17-year-old Jennifer Krupar, a guard on that young, untested Canadian basketball team at September's 1989 Pan-Am Games, it was a victory that she says she will never forget. "Being on the podium with the gold medal around my neck, looking at the flag and hearing the national anthem will always stick out in my mind," she says. "There was a lot of pride being Canadian at that moment and a real sense of accomplishment."

For Kravchenko, the youngest player on the 12-member team, playing in the Pankajwipar fulfilled a dream. Paralyzed from the waist down at age 8 after she fell off a picnic table and developed a blood clot at her spine, she started playing basketball, floor hockey and volleyball in an elementary school recreation program. But basketball was her favorite, and after nine years of practice and competition, she was named to the national team in June.

New a full-time student at the University of Alberta, Krumpal lives in the Edmonton suburb of St. Albert, and aims to pursue a career in sports psychology. She plays twice a week with the Edmonton Aurora Lynx and regularly takes to the court with the Renegades at the Canadian Wheelchair Basketball League. And to help raise awareness, Krumpal has spoken at clubs and schools throughout Alberta. Her advice to teens? "Believe in yourself and do what you can do. Even if people are telling you, 'No, no, you can't do that,' just try it anyway. Even if you fail, you can still go on to learn."

A CRUSADE FOR HARMONY

In October, Lennett Anderson, a Grade 11 student at Charles F. Allen High School in Redland, N.S., was stunned when he saw leaflets headlined "K.K.K. White Power Level" around his school. Anderson, 17, one of about 30 black youths among nearly 1,200 students,



Change-maker Anderson: Paralympian Ericsson (left) 'believe in yourself'

says that the leaflets, peppered with anti-black slurs, created tensions at the school. As president of Allen's Cultural Awareness Youth Group, an organization that meets weekly to discuss racial issues and promote ethnic harmony, Anderson initiated an assembly where students vented their feelings—and reached a consensus that “we need to get along.”

A firm believer that dialogue and education can foster understanding, Anderson has also pushed successfully for changes in the school's curriculum. After classroom study of *To Kill a Mockingbird*—Harpis Lee's acclaimed 1960 novel dealing with racism in the American South, which includes such offensive terms as

suggest—be complained to principal Julianne Cooke. "When you are the only black student in class and that word is constantly mentioned," says Anderson, "you feel very uncomfortable." At a series of student-teacher meetings arranged by Cooke, the English department decided to require students who study the book to participate in a two-hour workshop at the Black Cultural Centre in nearby Dartmouth. And a Grade 12 course in Black literature will be introduced in the fall.

Cooley says that Anderson is clearly a positive role model—"a good student and very helpful in promoting harmony." For Anderson, an active church member, an educator and a former member of the Nova Scotia board of the Children's Wish Foundation, a charity that gives terminally ill youngsters a chance to realize their dreams, the motivation is simple: "We are all equal," he says, "and should treat each other accordingly."

PLATINUM PDISE

from the very beginning, it was a Canadian success story—destined at glitzdom. At 7, she was performing in public. By 16, she had produced her first single (age four years later, Ottawa pop star Alanis, who was only four a first time professionally) signed a contract with RCA Records. Now, a poised and measured 18-year-old with two chart-topping albums in 1994 (two owed to Canada's most promising female vocalist, a chain of videos and countless public appearances behind her, she is Canada's hottest teen success—Alanis, who still lives at home with her parents in Ottawa's The Club district, is becoming a household name). "I'm a little bit different," promises that goes along with being in a position where people look up to you and watch every move you make. "But she says that she tries hard to maintain a



Vancouver environmental activist
Babineff: 'not your typical student'

trappings, answer her own mail and "remain true" to herself. The singer, whose latest album, *Now as the Time*, has sold over 50,000 copies since its release in October, adds, "You have to find a balance."

That balance will be tested further when Allen enters the U.S. market in the near future. "Our whole game plan was to make her successful in her home territory," says New York City-based MCA senior vice-president John Alexander.

"The attack for 1993 is America and the rest of the world." A dancer and actress as well as a performer of the stylish, high-energy pop music that she co-writes, Adams has already made videos as settings as far afield as Italy and Colombia, as well as a made-for-television movie to be aired on the Fox network later this year. And now, ready to take on a wider audience, she is considering moving to the United States. "Sometimes you have to move yourself and it's unfortunate that it's to another country," she says. "But I'll still be a Canadian-for sure."

A FIGHT AGAINST APATHY

Kelly is her best friend. Kinsler Jones learned that aptly as a coroner trip confirming her age group. At Regina's Roman Catholic Archdiocese, M.C. O'Neil, Hugh Seland, she says that she found widespread acceptance of the "status quo." Teenagers, Jones says, often lack the confidence to shake free of their dependence on adults and to get a grip on their own lives. Jones's own confidence began to grow when, as a Grade 10 student in 1996, she was named for her actions.

principal, Bert Yulechuk, to co-chair an international student leadership conference. She made a commitment "to get the student body involved." By the time the conference convened two years later, in September, 1992, Jones found that the process had "boosted my idea of student taking control." And many others among more than 1,000 students from 22 countries at the week-long event, says Jones, also realized that "teenagers 'can make a difference' in a world not too far away."

The conference not only provided guidance on self-improvement, says Jones, but the foreign exchange students, whose travel was sponsored by Rotary Club International, helped the hosts to understand that "our world certainly is no longer Russia, or Saskatchewan or even Canada, but the entire world."

The confidence that she gained encouraged Jones, now 17, to seek and win the presidency of her school's student council. She has helped in such ways as raising funds for a nature preserve, while she presiding peacefully with cheer and playing basketball during future studies in journalism. "I would like a skill to help me in the Third World, maybe education. Whatever her choice, Jones now is convinced: "You have to take on a future."

FRIEND OF THE EARTH

Leta Rubinoff acknowledges that she lives meetings. And the energetic 18-year-old has plenty of opportunity to engage in her favorite pastime. A member of the Vancouver-based national steering committee of the Environmental Youth Alliance (EYA), a Canada-wide network of 10,000 young activists that promotes nonver-

normal, soft and development men, the Grade 11 pupil says that the "last year typical student—I don't come home at 3:30 in the afternoon, have a snack and do my homework." Instead, many evenings and weekends she is in the EVA's Rotundo headquarters, assisting in organization and policy planning and helping to initiate awareness campaigns on such concerns as endangered species, indigenous people and water depletion. "We try to encourage people to take on issues in their own communities," says Rotundo. "We link students in different regions who are working on similar issues and try to give them new resources or skills that they need."

For Rubenstein, the ultimate objective is nothing less than "creating a whole generation and a whole global community that can really effect change." She is also active in the National Boylston Circle, a group that is trying to promote conversation among like-minded youth organizations.

Reminiscences

When Sydney Mackenzie was an 85-year-old retired Vancouver doctor, was 14 years old in 1937, he entered a five-mile race starting from his home town of Medicine Hat, Alta. The result was:

[illegible]

The 1960s were a time of big changes, especially for young girls. Gone were the long trousers and conforming, bare-nothing clothes. The truly trendy teens were donning shorter skirts, silk stockings, cloche hats and costume jewelry—and bobbing their hair. Silent screen stars Rudolph Valentino and Greta Garbo were teen idols in the decade of 'test, drink and be merry' as the younger generation smoked, drank and danced the black bottom, shimmy and Charleston.

across the country. And last fall, she was one of three Canadians to travel on the Earth Train, the first phase of a 30-year international project in which youth leaders from 18 countries crossed the United States by rail, stopping along the way to help build schools or to help organize youth groups. They also helped the ambassadors at New York. "There is a tendency to underestimate the power and the energy of youth," says Raskind. "But we really do have the ability to organize ourselves and to take action on our continents."

TAKING MANHATTAN

But as long as father-Abbie MacIsaac can remember, she's loved music and dance of his native Cape Breton. He has been a much part of it.

He is the first New Scotian village of Cape Breton in the city at the heart of St. George's Bay. "I was exposed to them from the time I was born," says the 17-year-old musician. "Even before I was born, I was probably dancing the fiddle." A step-dancer student at MacIsaac's St. George's school, two years later and quickly established himself as a performer at local dances, folk festivals and in Cape Breton hotels. But his career took a dramatic turn in August after he played at a square dance in South West Miramichi, 83 miles west of Sydney. He produced his first album that day on stage in Miramichi.

The caller was Johnnie MacIsaac, artistic director of New York City's Joseph Papp Public Theater, who had heard MacIsaac play at Miramichi while she was touring at last year's summer home. She invited him to perform at her production of George Bernard Shaw's *Back to Back*, a musical by her husband, renowned composer Philip Glass. "I didn't know much about Johnnie or who this Philip Glass fellow was," recalls MacIsaac. But MacIsaac flew to New York in late October to meet the director. "Johnnie's last name was that. He took his name a little element to it," says MacIsaac. And she was there when Cape Breton fiddle music and dancing met of the world in the play. "MacIsaac taught our members to step-dance and the play opened a month's run on Dec. 6 in critical acclaim, including praise from our reviewer MacIsaac's 'Sweet Home New York and fiddle playing'."

Now, MacIsaac is finishing Grade 12 studies while juggling a schedule of recent experiences and workbooks across North America. He released his first album, *Chin in the Fire at May*. But the on-to-earth Cape Bretoner says that, although he plans to continue performing, he is not coming on a full-time career and will study business at languages after a high school. "I don't know what it is, always going to do it, why that it is new," he says. "I don't know why? Who knows? I could have a couple of fingers cut off or something at 10 years' time and I'd be a pro theore."

FIGHTING DESPAIR

Gordon Mayer knows firsthand the sting of racial discrimination. "Acceptance by others is a problem facing a large group," says the 13-year-old Jewish Canadian, who moved to the small central Manitoba community of The Pas when two years ago from Annapolis, Ontario. "When I first moved up here, I could see the problems that Jews were getting into and I could see myself slowly learning that very quickly. I had nothing to do in my spare time," he recalls. "I had decided to get involved." Now a youth delegate on the board of directors of The Pas Friendship Centre, the Grade 12 student desires much of his spare time to helping others.

A member of the center's program committee, which considers community activities, he also volunteers his time as a piano and vocal teacher. As well, he is a peer counselor, helping young people to cope with their problems. And in the coming months he plans to lead to area schools to talk to students about such subjects as self-esteem and motivation. "Sometimes," he says, "they feel more comfortable talking to someone their own age."

Mayer is also the only teenage representative on the community's 15-member youth justice committee. The committee's help young offenders. The committee considers the merits of individual cases and offers recommendations that those who have run afoul of the law perform community service or participate in such activities as self-esteem training.

"Instead of getting a warning, they have a chance to prove themselves worthy," he explains. "I know them and they are felt welcome by everybody." He adds: "When some kids feel prejudice, they just can't handle it—they get mad. I think people should talk things out and get things out of their heads. They should do something and bring part of the problem rather than the solution."

47%
OF TEENS SAY THEY HAVE DONE VOLUNTEER WORK IN THE PAST TWO YEARS, WHILE 43 PER CENT HAVE HELPED RAISE MONEY FOR CHARITY. PRAIRIE TEENS ARE THE MOST INVOLVED IN EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES.

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BREAKING THE ICE

MacIsaac's fiddle and guitar play with an edge as keen as the blades on her skis as she recalls the challenges that she mounted two years ago. She was 13 then, completing her first year at John MacIsaac High School in the Montreal suburb of Pointe Claire, and wanted to try out for the *Renegades*, the school's hockey team. "They told me I couldn't, just because I was a girl," recalls the five-foot, five-inch, 120-lb. youngster. "I was hurt and I was mad and I was melted—so I decided that I had better do something about it."

Stung by the refusal and supported by her parents, Frazier launched a campaign to persuade the Greater Montreal Athletic Association (GMAA) to change the rules that allowed only boys to participate in the hockey program at 16 Montreal-area high schools. Her effort was initially rejected by the association, but Frazier refused to give up. She wrote letters, gathered dozens of media interviews and issued an ultimatum—officially—with the *Renegades*. Gradually, she was over John MacIsaac's coaches, then the school's principal and, finally, a majority of the members of the ruling athletic association itself. Early this January, the GMAA not only granted Frazier's request, but also decided to integrate other sports, allowing

girls to play competitive ice hockey and tackle football, and opening up previously all-male sports like field hockey to the boys.

Shortly after the decision, Frazier, now a 15-year-old, hockey student, stepped forward, becoming the first female to play in a Montreal-area high school game. She was playing flying from beneath her helmet, she controlled right wing for the *Renegades* and helped her team to a 10-1 victory of the team from Royal West. Frazier, although she has still not managed to crack the starting lineup, she continues to enjoy being a member of the team. "I did not really do it for the hockey anyway," says Frazier. "Because I have to admit that I'm not the most amazing player around. But the rules weren't fair. Maybe all the other girls will now get a chance to play in games they love but think are so scary."

ACCIDENTAL VALOR

For Doreen Smith it was a case of being in the wrong place at the right time. A 35-year-old lay nurse with the 47th St. Men's Community in Vancouver, Smith traveled to Israel in August, 1991, for the 17th World Jewish Congress being held in Mount Scopus National Park on the east coast of Jerusalem. But on its second evening at the capital, before setting out for the Jericho area, Smith fell down some hotel stairs, breaking her ankle. Taken by her trust master to a nearby hospital, the teenager witnessed a horrific scene. As he was treated, an ambulance crew rushed a two-year-old girl, Shai-Yan Wang, who had been playing in her basketball with her brother.

Smith's brother, Shai-Yan, was a two-year-old girl, Shai-Yan Wang, who had been playing in her basketball with her brother.

Along with Canadian physicians for Fatherland's Marry Tronick, a nursing official who had accompanied him to the hospital, Smith helped to mobilize the 300-member Canadian contingent attending the Jerusalem to raise money for the girls. "He was just so overwhelmed by what he saw in the hospital that he felt that something ought to be done to help these children," says deputy contingent leader John Gennell, a Vancouver lawyer. "Once he started to talk about it, the rest of the kids were involved that they decided to help." With the assistance of other results at the 130-station gathering, the Canadians raised more than \$22,000 to assist the Knesset.

In July, 1992, the two girls flew to Montreal where they were transferred for the month at the Western's Hospital. They returned home in December. Shai-Yan, whose leg had been second above the knee, is now able to walk with



Hockey pioneer Frazier, promising scholar Yu (left) capable of making a lasting scientific contribution.

prosthetic limbs, although she now sometimes to Canada regularly to have them refitted as she grows. Yu-Abi, who suffered permanent nerve damage, was fitted with a leg brace. But Smith, now 16, remains moved about his contributions. "I definitely helped, but it was a big group effort," he says. "Most of my role was being the person who looks like a leader."

A PROMISING FUTURE
He was short, spoke little English, but never bore out of the country before, and his North American destination was half a world away. But when Yu-Abi lost control through those years ago at 16, he met the challenging task with the kind of determination and energy that were later to mark a brilliant academic career. Yu adjusted quickly to life—and studies—in his new home, earning a remarkable 90 percent average in his first year at the University of Colorado at Boulder. He was a member of the physics department, which had two Jewish students, and he was a member of the physics department. "I've never met anyone quite like him. He's a real star."

After a 14-year-old first-year computer engineering student at Ontario's University of Waterloo, Yu always felt his academic achievements. "I think my biggest accomplishment was earning a place in the Canadian national physics Olympiad team," he says. "I traveled to England last summer and it was a very good experience." And he points out that being a top student is not always what it is cracked up to be. "Succeeding with others is definitely more difficult," he says. "Not because people are very good, but because they think you're somehow different."

A devotee of classical music by Beethoven, Chopin and Schubert and English-language confessions, Yu sometimes cannot help thinking about the homeland that he left behind. "I hope to study in my own country," he says. "I hope to study in my own country." He is also convinced that he is doing fairly well in his current studies. "I have become North American," he adds. "But I miss my own culture." He is a hospital that his future—one that may involve graduate studies and research—will include many in China to use his relatives. Confidently predicting that his prospects will be "bright," Yu adds that optimism is a prerequisite for life. "Without it, you can't do much of anything at all."

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SCOTT STREIBER with GLEN ALLEN in Ontario. BARRY GAYNE in Montreal and JOHN NEWELL in Chicago.



MacIsaac: 'Good and fiddle'

BABIES HAVING BABIES

TEENAGE MOTHERS FACE A BLEAK FUTURE

As classmate creeps into class, Belinda Stuart meets heavily in her Ottawa apartment to confront another day as a 17-year-old high school student, an outcast, and about to become a mother. The first few months of pregnancy were almost enough. Few of Stuart's Grade 12 peers at Ottawa's Grade 12 School in Belinda's class knew that the new girl, who traveled halfway across the city to class each morning, was expecting a child. In fact, few knew the honor-roll student at all; she deliberately avoided friendship with her classmates and she related to less and less. But now that she has reached her eighth month, her pregnancy has become obvious—and her pregnancy status at the year. "I was done for real and everyone starts at me," grins Stuart. "You know, I would like a pug dog. I need my body. I need every thing." Still, she says, she is driven by a goal. "I'll get a job," she declares. "I've got to prove myself to my mother. She's the best friend I have."

At the opposite end of the city, in a cheap strip of light-blue apartment houses for drifty strivers and cockroaches, Nancy Delaney lives with considerably less optimism. Rightist-as-on-seville, she is the mother of rightist-born-daughter Jessica. In November, moved between the pressures of single parenthood and the demands of attending high school full-time, Delaney dropped out of Grade 11. "It was real easy at first getting up at 8 a.m. and the door at 7 to take Jessica to day care and drive off to school," she says. "But then I got tired and I wanted to go to bed and always had to put on a major act at the door, but I couldn't let it go." Sometimes, though, she looks into the future—and is troubled by what she sees. "I'm always thinking, what would happen if I die?" says Delaney. "I have no doubt about her Jessica. I mean, I have nothing."

For teenage mothers like Staack and Doherty, the road to life is built a better life for their children often alternatives with dangers that they are so young—and powerless—to be able to do so. Many certainly have bleak futures. According to the latest available statistics, more than 60 per cent of the 29,000 Canadian women who became pregnant in 1989 kept their babies. But up to 80 per cent of teenage mothers are at risk for providing for their children, at least one in five have used services for alcoholism. About a working world that demands expertise and experience that they do not have, unable even to handle a lease and



Stuart and (opposite) Doberty with daughter Jessica: young mothers trying to fight their way out of the welfare trap



18. many start in poverty, often lose more than \$100 on waiting lists for limited openings in public housing and subsidized day care.

But sometimes felt to show the treachery of those who try to fight their way out of the system," says Doherty, for one knows that dropping out of school is not the answer. Determined to be a nurse, she added her name in January, 1982, to a waiting list of 112 at Stouard College, a Catholic agency that provides secretarial, full-time high-school courses for 30 single mothers—and a day care centre that can accommodate up to 35 infants and toddlers. "A friend of mine who sent there said the only way I was going to get a man to love them and show some affection," Doherty says. "I overheard it and phoned them every day, sometimes twice." Last week, Doherty learned that she had been accepted. "At least, I'm trying to do something with my life," she says. "Before, I thought I got it, everybody is putting me on the line—I'm going to stay here with my kids."

Student has been just as persistent in her search for education. She previously lived with relatives in small towns near Ottawa, and moved into the city when she discovered that she was pregnant. There, she began to look for a public high school that would allow her to interrupt her studies when she was ready to give birth, without losing the school year. "One teacher told me I'd be a disruptive influence and a bad example—as if the kids that go there don't know about sex," she says. After three rejections, she found Nelson, one of a dozen public high schools in Canada—and the only one in Ottawa—to operate voluntary sex-education centres on its premises while offering a program geared to young mothers.

Sandwich: For Olcott, the parenting program's homework class—35 students where 37 children are enrolled at the homeless shelter they once occupy—has become both a support group and a sanctuary. “I’ve lost all my old friends,” she says. “They’re homecareers. They worry about the stupidest things—like, ‘my hair’s not working’ or ‘my makeup’s not great.’ The only friends I have are the people in this class. They know what I am going through, they know it’s hard to be 15 and pregnant.”

That daily 1½-hour class in Room 201 often reveals more of the day-to-day realities of teenage motherhood than a stack of self-help baby books. One 20-year-old mother who has a 10-month-old daughter with Down's syndrome tells Stuart: "Doctors look down on teenage moms. You have to convince them your child is sick." Another notes that to con-

In a high-stress environment, a mother has to be two different people. "You're an adult who you're with your child in the day care," she says. "As soon as you step out of there you almost have to regress to being into your survival-mom." Most agree that while a 35-year-old can firmly discipline a child in pants, a 17-year-old cannot. "One smacks and they take your child away," says one mother.

Some of their humor is suggestive. "Age doesn't mean anything," says one. Some of it is

and went to live with an aunt. "I hated life until I was pregnant," she says. "I really wished I had a baby because then I would have something in my life that I could care for and lose."

Stuart's memories evoke both pleasure and pain. During Stuart's childhood, her family lived on a working farm in British Columbia's Okanagan Valley. It was a happy but all-too-brief period that ended with her parents' divorce when Stuart was eight. She moved to Nova Scotia with her mother. But their relationship deteriorated, and



A former justice of the Supreme Court of Canada, the Hon. William (Bud) Ritchie, now 73, vividly recalls the frolic of dancing that he and his schoolmates performed on Saskatoon's 25th Street Bridge.



There was nothing to do in these days, no distractions like television, so we had to make things up. We used to cross under the bridge on the arched that supported it. One day, Dennis Hardwater, who became a journalist, crawled way up into where the birds roosted and pulled out a pair of pigeons. He took them back to his family's home saying he was bringing them home. Well, his family looked at these birds and said he was home. He was breeding two males. So Dennis just goes right back up there and pulls out another pair. Only this time he gets it right. Years later, he went back to see if the old house was still there. Dennis said the owner had the house torn down. He said, "I can't get rid of the damn seagulls."

In the Depression-ravaged 1930s, teenagers lucky enough to have a decent family income passed their leisure time outin' the rug—dancing to swing music. The music—big-band jazz with lots of improvisation—was all the rage and so was jive talk, the slang of hepcats. Teens plugged coins into jukeboxes to hear songs by Benny Goodman, Count Basie and Duke Ellington. Saddle shoes and hose alerts were the style, but a fashion-conscious debutante might wear a strapless gown, pencil her eyebrows and apply varnish lipstick.

Stuart left home at 14 to spend more than two years living either with friends—or on the streets. During that time, she says, she was raped and had an abortion—until relatives in Ghana took her in. “I always look for the bad side,” Stuart says. “That’s the way I am. When I get pregnant, I said ‘Well, figures.’ I fell into little statistics all the time. The homeless ones, the ones that’s broken, the ones who’s scared.”

Family: In spite of being pregnant herself, Stuart says that she is opposed to teenagers having children. "I'd like to have a job and a house first," she notes. "My mom was due for me at the same age. She's got five kids—and she's still on welfare. Over people w/ my family said, 'You're going to be just like your mother.' So I have to prove it to them—to everyone—that I'm not." Meanwhile, she prepares for the birth of her child in March. After some debate, Stuart and her boyfriend say they have chosen names for their baby. It's a girl, he will tell her.

named James Scott, in honor of relatives on her boyfriend's side. If it is a girl, her name will be Samantha Elizabeth—which Stuart associates with happier times. Those are the two names, she says, that she gives to all her dolls.

E. KATE FLETCHER as Catherine

YOUNG, GAY—AND ALONE

COMING OUT OF THE CLOSET CAN BE PAINFUL

In his young life, Jonathan Howard's sexuality has driven him to the brink of suicide on more than one occasion. He was 16 the first time it happened, newly arrived in Toronto after a childhood spent in New Scotia. While walking along a downtown street, he encountered an attack—and obviously gay—man approaching from the opposite direction. "The guy looked right into my eyes as we passed," Howard remembers, "and at that moment I knew that he knew that I, too, was gay." (Howard, now 30, and a third-year science student at Montreal's McGill University, vividly recalls being overwhelmed at the time by a sense of shame. "I felt naked," he says. "I thought everyone is that big sophisticated city, unlike the kids back home, could see me for what I really was. I started to run away and hide.") In despair, he retreated to his parents' house, locked himself in his room and swallowed "a whole bunch of aspirin."

Jonathan Howard survived the incident. But among youngsters facing the same or similar situations all day, every day, as Howard was, teenagers are being driven by the desire to avoid emerging sexuality in a world that is becoming increasingly hostile. Some quickly realize that they are gay or lesbian. A few view themselves as repugnantly disgusted. Others are quietly teased, harassed by classmates or members of the same sex that is loaded upon with misbegotten messages by their own peers and by society at large. And whenever the state of their sexual development must lead troubled teenagers here, those kids carry a terrible added weight at a really critical time," says Montreal social worker William Ryan.

The burden can often break heavy. Every year in the United States, 5,000 young people between the ages of 15 and 24 take their own lives. And according to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, fully 30 per cent of those suicides are directly related to the emotional turmoil over sexual orientation. Suicide aside, U.S. research also suggests that the same normal levels of higher school dropout rates, higher levels of drug and alcohol abuse, parental rejection, loneliness and great distress. While there are no comparable Canadian studies, there is little reason to believe that the situation is much different in this country. That outside of a few isolated programs located almost entirely in major urban centers, there



Gays demonstrating in Montreal: faced with the prospect of rejection—or worse

are few places where a sexually troubled youngster can seek out guidance and support.

The results are visible, of a persistently rising suicide rate. "It's the worst kind of loneliness," says Jason, a 20-year-old McGill history major, who admits that his identity has haunted him. "I've got to hide my parents in the southern Ontario town where he was born and raised that he has finally 'come out' and entered a long-term relationship with another male student. "I realized I was different from a very early age but I could never admit it, not even to myself for a time," he says. "The images were just too negative. There were times in high school when I wondered if I was the only one on the face of the planet. And yet there were one I could turn to—not my parents, certainly not my friends. When you're a teenager, it's the last thing you want your friends to know."

Fear: Many teenage guys, faced with the prospect of rejection—or worse—from friends and relatives, resort to leading double lives. Andrew Muldrew, 18, attended Woodside Secondary School in Hamilton, Ont. Although he claims to have been aware of his homosexuality for "whole life," he attempted to portray the opposite image at age 16. He had been dating the same girl for two years. "It can get really confusing," he says. "You go out with your friends to a bar and you go out with women, but

you know all the time that it's an act—it's so great for you." Montreal, now studying neuroscience at McGill University, died of the risk and openly declared his homosexuality when he was 16. But it was not easy. "The hardest thing in life of the unknown," he says, "fear of being now lonely, fear of how your family is going to react."

First appears to be a constant factor in the lives of almost all young people who think—or accept the fact—that they are gay. If they openly declare their sexual orientation or, despite, they face verbal and perhaps even physical harassment. If they keep quiet, they remain lonely and alienated. "It's always there," says Robbie, a 20-year-old Montreal lesbian. "In high school, I was so afraid of my own sexuality that I grew progressively more homophobic. The closer I got to coming out, it seemed even so much as hated. I might be lesbian, I would talk out in anger." Despite the distress, however, few young guys or lesbians feel that they have any choice in the matter. "Nobody chooses to be gay," says Jason. "Who is their right would choose something that costs as much in terms of isolation, pain and outright harassment?"

BARRY CAME in Montreal with JOE CHADLEY in Toronto

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COVER MUSIC TO LIVE BY

TEENS HAVE 'AN ECLECTIC RANGE OF TASTES'

Alex Filippang and the three other members of his rock band, Voices of Innercity, admirably reject inclusion in any musical category. The Winnipeg high-school students perform songs peppered with high-pitched electric guitar feedback, while others are acoustic and just influenced. Some of the lyrics explore dark themes like homelessness and alcoholism. When asked to name performers who they admire, drummer Filippang, singer-guitarist Kyle Gaudreault, and guitarist Tony Scarpato, all 17, and bassist Peter Choi, 18, have a diverse list of names ranging from Chicago blues guitarist Muddy Waters to Mississippi punk rockers Hilder D. Ian Filippang, a 44-year-old junior-high-school teacher—and a country music fan—says that he is more bemused than offended by his son's taste in music. "I think a lot of it is just an attitude," he says. In fact, across Canada, young people, like their parents, say that music is one of the most important influences in their lives.

Music helps to define teens, lifestyles, communities and gathering places that unlike their mothers and fathers, teenagers now are splintered into a far greater variety of music-based subgroups. The social groups control almost these diverse and rapidly shifting musical

styles vary from city to city, even high school to high school. Music industry executives call the phenomenon fragmentation. Sam Paul Alaka, 36, president of the RPM Canada chart at 60 record stores. "In the 1960s and 1970s, you were either into rock 'n' roll or you weren't. Now there is an eclectic range of tastes."

In fact, the term rock 'n' roll is a new dated assumption when applied to music that is popular with teenagers. It is a speech to a teen marketing conference in Toronto last fall, Alaka identified 34 distinct styles in the dominating category alone. He split heavy metal into 23 varieties. Among the most popular is grunge, the ragged guitar-driven rock popularized by Seattle-based grunge like Nirvana and Pearl Jam. Even with all these categories, Alaka dotted such groups as the Riot Kid Club Poppers, who combine funk and heavy metal, in an alternative category because they did not fit anywhere else.

That fragmentation is evident at Kohn High School in south-central Winnipeg, which rock star Neil Young attended sporadically in the mid-1960s before dropping out. Rebecca Tynes, 16, says that there are three principal subgroups (of Kohn): Bangers, Skaters and Alternative. The Bangers are heavy-metal fans who favor long hair, leather jackets and jeans. The Skaters are all skate-boarders who dress much like rap stars: aviator shirts and jackets, baseball caps and baggies, and pants that Tynes says are "big enough to house a small family." Most of them listen to dark and dominant bands—do not obscure the better—whose music moves them to violent acts. Among them: Sade, Youth, Black Flag, Manu and Alice in Chains.

Alternative: Tynes, who looks like a latter-day hippie with her ankle-length and short and long straight hair, is often heralded as an Alternative. Many of her favorite artists are folk-oriented, including the Vancouver-based group Spent of the West. But she adds that the same alternative is a critical for teens who do not fit into other categories. Tynes says that her school also has a small community of preppies, who look as squeaky clean as the term implies, and have more conventional tastes in music.

The splintering of musical tastes is evident even among younger teens. At Isaac Newton School, a junior high school in a working-class north Winnipeg neighborhood, half a dozen students do have the merits of rap versus heavy metal. Two of the girls, Jenny Sturgeon and Jennifer Sand, both 15, as well as Deanne Overton, 16, say they have listen mostly to heavy-metal bands like Guns N' Roses and Metallica. But Grade 7 student Michelle Gibbons, 12, says that he listens almost exclusively to rap and rhythm and blues.

Several of the Isaac Newton students' parents and teachers don't like either rap or heavy metal—they say they are disturbed by the lyrics. "I'm concerned about the violence and the treatment of women," says Robin Dow, co-director of the school's performing arts program. She refers to such lines as "brimby like a shit," from one of Michelle's favorite rap songs. Michelle's mother, Nan Gibbons, 47, says that she does not like the swearing and violence in many rap songs, either.

Setting aside his mother in their living room, Michelle reads from this EPK lyrics he has written in a pencil on a piece of paper. They are filled with U-S inner-city drug slang, but Michelle agrees that the words are often used for shock effect and should not be taken too seriously. No do



Gibbons teenagers are splintered into a wide variety of music-based subgroups

the noted groups in the lyrics he says, reflect Winnipeg reality. Later, sitting in his bedroom beneath two posters of Martin Luther King and Malcolm X, Michelle concedes that "I got scared when I visited my cousin in Detroit, because I knew that stuff really happens there."

Whatever musical faction they identify with, teen teenagers still share some common tastes. One is a widespread distaste for rock, which in recent years Canada critics is dominated by stations that target 18- to 44-year-old listeners. 1991's Alaka says that both radio stations and

record companies are ignoring a huge teen market. He says that teens make up about 60 per cent of 1991's customers and last year, courtesy of Toronto's Berenstain Bears and another quirky Toronto group, Moby Prisma, as well as the controversial U.S. rap group Public Enemy, all of which received little or no airplay, sold more in his stores than new releases by such new strains stars as Madonna, Bruce Springsteen and Michael Jackson.

Whether Web very little of the music they like available on radio, teenagers often rely on word of mouth to find out about new trends. Many students at both Isaac Newton and Kohn say that a majority of the tapes that they own are filled with songs that they have borrowed and recorded from their friends. That preference for availability and efficiency, Alaka says that customers of RPM's teen Toronto store, mostly teenagers, were buying up to 5,000 copies a month of a cassette that the Berenstain Bears distributed themselves before the band signed a recording contract in May, 1990.

The latest trends spread quickly to smaller centres, as well. In Brandon, a city of 38,000, 200 km west of Winnipeg, teenagers are split into groups similar to those in larger metropolitan areas. On a January Saturday night, more than 100 teenagers, mostly Sturgeon and Sand, crowded into a student cafeteria at Brandon University. There

were three acts on the bill: Patti Smith, a local rap trio, Most Rock, which played loud slow rock, and Red Puma, a popular star band from Winnipeg. But these shows did not have universal appeal to the teens. "We're the people group here," said David Legend, 17, standing off to the side with several of her newly formed friends. "We're really into it, piece." As Most Rock leaped into a song, she added "I don't understand this. But this is what's new anything to do in Brandon." For all its new and varied tastes, teen music has played the same role since the 1960s: letting young people rock around the clock.

JOHN DALL in Winnipeg

Reminiscences

Neil Young was born and raised in Edmonton. Now 68, the publisher and leader of the National Party of Canada remembers the high and low points of teenage life in the 1940s.

The unquestioned highlight of my high school years occurred in Grade 11 when I took a basket from centre court with three seconds to go to win the game. This was quite remarkable because the next points I had ever scored in a game were late. The worst thing that ever happened to me in high school was when my new girlfriend accidentally whacked my father's new car into another car and in the process put her foot on the accelerator instead of the brake. Both cars were a mess. Then, the police officer found a smudge of eye in the car. To say the least, I was in plenty hot trouble. My parents were not amused.



Football games, argyle socks, socks smoothing and sweater peels were essential parts of teen life in the 1940s. Girls devoured fashion and beauty advice from such magazines as Seventeen, but many still appeared in pulchre wearing baggy, rolled-up jeans and shirts. Although a war spread in Europe for much of the decade and claimed the lives of young soldiers, one-third of 2,000 teens surveyed by an American university thought that the most serious problem they faced was acne. Seventy-five teenagers were born who as were the silver screen's Doris Day and Roy Rogers. But, for many of the young women of later, to one could top the King of Swain—Frank Sinatra.

COVER CRASH COURSE IN CULTURE

URBAN SCHOOLS THRIVE ON DIVERSITY

Since moving with his family from New York City to Toronto two years ago, Kirk Lytleton says, he has heard five stereotypes about his son: that he's the animated 17-year-old, who plans to pursue a political career, says that he still perceives prejudice in some people's eyes. They look at me as if I'm about to grab their purse," says Lytleton, who is black. "Nothing is said, but the message is still there." That attitude hit home late last year when members of a white supremacist group looted at Riverside High School, where Lytleton is a Grade 12 student. They even left a pamphlet in his locker. "The school warned us they were coming," he says, "but I wasn't all that pretty angry." In fact, Riverside students, most of them members of visible minorities, were so upset that they lashed out at members of the First who showed up at the school during an antiracism rally last month. "Steak the blue men," they shouted. Rough 18-year-old Karen Francis. "Some people figure we can ignore racism, but this rally we're at, it says that it still exists."

The diverse ethnic mix in many urban high schools can breed both tolerance and tension. Some children of recent immigrants find trapped between two traditions, while for others the array of cultures opens doors to new languages and ideas. But ethnic diversity is only one element in the city's high-stakes environment. Even before they reach puberty, many young students have learned about everything from AIDS to apartheid, street crime to modern art, poverty to postmodernism and aquatic a variety of social sophistication helping their years. "There's a lot of that teenage angst," claims Cheryl Burkard-Mason, a 16-year-old black immigrant. "We're not seeing crap poetry or crying over rainbows at the local store." Or, at 17-year-old student Mavis You, 17, "You grow up fast in this city."

In Toronto, where high schools specialize in various types of education—ranging from providing technical training to small independent schools—budding students are often thrown into a new culture. Located in a working-class neighborhood on the city's east end, many students attend an antiracism course that can prepare them for university. "It just goes to go anywhere after high school," declares Cheryl Sander, a 16-year-old Grade 11 student. "You

response, students and community activists staged the antiracism rally that First members snidely crashed." They had the tendency to show up twice," says Andy Aeb, who took part in the Riverside protest. "You have to stop that kind of racism." But Sander cautioned some of the students' tactics. "A lot of people yelled 'Just kick the ass out,' which sounds exactly like words used by the First."

In fact, some students say that racial tensions do exist at the school. Seventeen-year-old John Yogan was just products between a few Chinese students and his Greek friends. "It was just stand there, they ask if we have a problem," says Yogan, who admits to feeling somewhat isolated in Riverside's largely Asian

standing might be expected in a city where more than one-third of the population has a first language other than English or French. "I don't participate that much in school activities because I'm not comfortable with my English," says Stacey Zacharias, a tall, stocky Toronto-born 16-year-old who lived in Greece from 1981 to 1989. "I have to get used to Canada again." But Zacharias, like many teens struggling to define themselves, takes pride in his background. "My outlook on life is Greek," says the Grade 12 student. "It gives me something to share with other cultures."

Economic differences, even more than cultural ones, can make teens feel isolated. Most from Mexico City, 18, shares an apart-

ment, but she looks pleased as she leans against the locker in a long sweater, black leggings and knee-high leather boots. "This is where I have fun," says Chan, adding that she is still aware of her own responsibilities. "I must accept that my childhood is gone."

For some students, childhood already seems a distant memory. Last year, Jennifer Doane's 13-year-old parents had to return to Haiti for family reasons. Doane, 19, is now the legal guardian of her 13-year-old sister. She says that she is only applying to local universities or colleges, even though she would prefer to study elsewhere after she finishes high school in June. "I can't consider other places when I am leaving after my sister," says Doane. "It's my responsibility." Many other students also live apart from their parents—and often have to try to make ends meet on student stipends. payments of \$601 per month. Coach Carolyn, a Riverside guidance counselor, says that financial stress and the absence of parental supervision can take a heavy toll on academic performance. Says Garbaccio: "The success rate for students living alone is very low."

Freedom. Still, living without parents can have benefits. Nigel Rose, 18, who goes by the nickname "Big Yuh," shares a downtown condominium with his older brother. As a result, he says, he has the freedom to set his own schedule. It is an environment that the Grade 12 student clearly prefers to school. "School isn't a totally dull place," says Rose. He holds that he has never thought of himself as a teen. "Teenagers are usually portrayed as quite stupid—like we don't know what's happening to us and we are absorbed by all this new stuff." He claims that, by the time he was eight, he knew what to expect. "I was just waiting for those hormones to erupt," says Rose, strapping his journal. "I'd seen it on TV."

At the same time, media messages may conflict with family traditions. Despite the TV barrage of lipsticks, condoms and designer jeans, some second-generation Canadians feel that their parents will not even allow them to date. "You see it among women in the more restrictive cultures," says Garbaccio. "Some feel they can't even go to the school dance." For Tracy Sun, whose family is Taiwanese but who lives in Canada, her education, dance seems like a distant luxury. Sun, 16, lives in a house with seven other students and an official guidance counselor. Unlike most of her classmates, she has no spare periods, and is not involved in any clubs. She says that she must content to waste the time in the morning—sleeping students have actual ratios less of 90:45 in Toronto. She studies for about three hours after school and another two hours after dinner each night. With the exception of an occasional movie on Fridays, the weekend has free time for the students. Canadian-born Thomas, also says, "People study less in Toronto—maybe they just receive less pressure." Or perhaps Riverside's teenagers bear different kinds of pressures, dealing with the diversities—and dangers—of inner Canada.



Antiracism rally at Riverside: the ethnic mix breeds both tolerance and tension

go to Riverside." About 65 per cent of the school's population is of East Asian descent, while many others have roots in Greek, Jewish and Indian—an ethnic mix that made the school a visible target for the Heritage Front.

Rally. The Toronto-based group, which claims at least 300 members, was formed in 1986 by Wolfgang Dorsch, a local white separatist with past links to the Ku Klux Klan. At a time of stubborn racism and high levels of immigration, Dorsch set up a phone line and distributed pamphlets throughout the city to promote so-called white pride and seek young recruits. Just last fall, Riverside students began complaining that they were finding the group's literature in their lockers and library books in

ment with her mother and two young sisters in Canada's largest public housing project, Regent Park. Her parents separated after Chan's 13-year-old brother died in 1990 of a heart ailment. "I lost my best friend," says Chan, who, as the only English speaker in the family, organized her brother's funeral. Since moving to the apartment in September, Chan says that she has felt embarrassed to invite friends home. "I worry a lot about the future, and about my future growing up in this area," she says. "I try to be happy but it can be hard."

For Chan, high school is a refuge. She walks confidently through the Riverside halls—once teacher describes her as "bubbly." As the Grade 12 student sits outside her physics class, a boy whispers at Catherine that he loves her as a crush on her. She giggles and breaks into

Reminiscences

St. John's, Nfld., author Bernice Johnson, 65, who wrote the 1982 historical novel *Roadside Passage*, recalls how the scene of a 1950s teenager were shaped by the movies.

W

I thought very romantically. Romance was dancing and singing and walking down a lonely road shaded street with a boy. It wasn't churning into bed. In my last year of high school, I was working during the Christmas rush in a store on Water Street. I was 16 or 17 and I was going to see 50. Moreover, he was not one of the group of friends I'd grown up with. He said he was going to pick me up after work, and I remember coming out onto the street and those 50-year-old snowflakes were just floating down. It was supposed to be leading him to a restaurant but I had never been to a restaurant in my life. We were walking up Water Street and I didn't know where I was going and he started saying "Watch! My Baby Back Movie is just lovely now." And I think I must have been the most romantic moment of my life. He was a man—going to movie.



For some 1950s teenagers, life was about double-dutch, hula-hoops, hanging out and being cool. A spring ritual was "broming"—shaking as many people into a telephone booth as possible—and drive-in movies reached their peak in popularity. Another first was *Grease*. David, a 16-year-length 3-D movie watched through chemistry glasses. The decade's sex symbol was Marilyn Monroe; his heartbreakers were Elia Presley and James Dean.

DIANE BRADY

LOVE AND FEAR IN THE AGE OF AIDS

A YOUNG WOMAN INFECTED WITH HIV RETURNS TO HER OLD SCHOOL

The car speeds west along the Trans-Canada Highway as snowflakes swirl from an afternoon coldest yet. "The worst thing is going home," Tracy Parsons says, belted in to the front passenger's seat, wearing a lumpy mesh condom. As the car nears Bay Roberts, the Newfoundland outpost 300 km west of St. John's where she spent her teen years, Parsons, now 25, recalls the wave of panic the first when she returned to her old high school a year ago. There, in a crowded classroom, her nose quivered as she smelled teenagers about the dangers of sex, which is believed to cause acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS), wearing a lumpy mesh condom. As the car nears Bay Roberts, the Newfoundland outpost 300 km west of St. John's where she spent her teen years, Parsons, now 25, recalls the wave of panic the first when she returned to her old high school a year ago. There, in a crowded classroom, her nose quivered as she smelled teenagers about the dangers of sex, which is believed to cause acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS), wearing a lumpy mesh condom.

The place happens to be Bay Roberts, but it could be anywhere. From Newfoundland to British Columbia, Canadian teenagers are struggling with the urgent issue of how to conduct their lives in the shadow of AIDS, and sex-ed classes are running with classes; care is full, despite nationwide AIDS education campaigns, only 30 per cent of sexually active teens across Canada say they use a condom every time they have sex, according to a *Maclean's*/DePue poll. In her work for the AIDS committee, travelling across the province to raise public awareness about the disease, Parsons says that she finds most teens do use condoms, but not all the time. She also says that the Newfoundland has an unenviable rate among teens that is far lower than the national average. "Those kids still think that it is a gay man's disease and they can't get it," she says.

Setting off on the way up Conception Bay's west coast, Bay

Parsons' kids still think that it is a gay disease and that they can't get it'

Roberts, a town of 5,000, is bordered by a narrow harbor on one side and barren, rocky hills on the other. Parsons, who was born in St. John's but moved to Bay Roberts eight years ago with her family, remembers teenage life there as dull, but generally happy. She helped her relatives, especially her brother, when he was in high school. Parsons contracted the HIV infection from a Bay Roberts-area man. He was her third sexual partner.

As the walls across the study perimeter towards her old high school, there are no words of bitterness or anger—only a bit of sorrow. "I made my bed and I will sleep in it," she says. "But I wish that I had known someone like me when I was in high school. I like to believe that if I had had the opportunity, that maybe things would have turned out differently for me." With that, she opens the school's front door and steps into the lobby.

AIDS committee colleague's guidance counselor, Mirvis Clarke, says that education campaigns trying to help teens to use condoms have an impact. When teens have sex, he says, "most of them take the common precautions." But he adds, "There are some who understand the dangers, and still don't protect themselves. They think that they are immortal."

It is in that kind of attitude that Parsons is fighting. She leans forward in her chair at the school's guidance office as she speaks. Of slender build, with a taste of dark black hair framing her thin, serious face, she hardly looks older than the two dozen 16- and 17-year-olds who sit at a light circle around her. They are Parsons's peer counselors—who receive special training to provide local students with advice on everything from study habits to personal relationships. And Parsons' message has captured their attention.

In fact, the dangers of AIDS are well known to them. In July, the Bay Roberts area was rocked by the report that Raymond Mercer, a 30-year-old man from nearby Upper Island Cove, was sentenced to 27 months in jail for seducing two young women with HIV by having unprotected sex in a bedroom of a court order. In fact, health department officials have found 30 HIV-positive cases around Conception Bay, 23 of them young women. Dr. Catherine Doonan, the medical officer for Newfoundland's Eastern Region, describes the incidence of infection in the area as "extraordinary."

Many towns in Bay Roberts claim to know someone who has tested HIV-positive—and they blame Mercer for what has happened to their friends and acquaintances. Parsons, however, views that Mercer as a part of the problem. "Some people are just so arrogant that they know all about the disease but think it doesn't apply to them," she declares. "It is almost like you have to come in and die in front of them before they will believe you."

When the bell rings to change classes, the students are reluctant to leave. Tracy Crink, a 16-year-old from Bay Roberts, walks up to Parsons and embraces her. "You see her and you realize that if it can happen to her, it can happen to anybody," says Crink, clutching her schoolbooks to her chest. "It is not something you want to think about—but you have to."

Between classes, now and then Parsons' colleague treats with controlled cynicism. The hallway is a sea of perfume and toned female hair and young men sporting Toronto Blue Jays shirts and pectoral and high-toped running shoes. "More to the right or you'll get trampled," Tracy Gray, a 12-year-old Grade 7 student, shouts above the din. About 900 students from Bay Roberts and surrounding settlements go to

the school, which claims as its motto "Carpe Deum" (Seize the Day).

Reverend blooms only here, as the walls in the main-floor girls' washroom attest. Until the surfaces are repainted, "Jody loves Edna" and "Edna loves Jody" are scrawled in white. Parsons, Maguire and Christopher were in town, along with C. M. and P. M. One American girl has scribbled "Hope all students get down on a water bed." The consensus in the Bay Roberts area is that many students begin having sex when they are between 14 and 17—just a feeling that is consistent with the *Maclean's*/DePue poll showing that half of 17-year-olds across Canada say they have had sex. "They do it in houses," declares Keith Driver, 18, as he loiters with friends in an otherwise-empty hallway. "They do it in cars. They do it in trucks. They do it anywhere." But, Driver, whose many female friends have changed sexual partners. "People stay together longer," he says.

Candy Coombe, 33, says that condoms are also increasing. "Newspapers," says Coombe, "I'd see most people are pretty careful when it comes to sex. Not everyone is so sure. Some people, 17, a cheerleader and peer counselor, says that, while she and her boyfriend of a few months have not even talked about sex, "When a boy and girl have a one-night stand around here, one out of 10 times the boy does not wear a condom."

Agile courtship rituals continue. Behind Parsons' classroom, a pool, dozens of teens gather in small groups. Displays of macho machismo are followed by the cold weather: a boy with a sparse mustache bites off the top of a Pepsi can and holds it up to his forehead. Best friends Lori Francis, 16, and Suzanne Flynn, 15, wear sweat-soaked "AIDS of your sex, you're all the way," says Parsons. "And if you don't, you'll die." They'll tell all the boys that you do anyway.

Yet even the most popular boys have been affected by the HIV scare. The *Academic's* top-ten—champions in their high-school hockey league last year—stood at the apex of the school's social pyramid. Most are already girlfriends. "That one-night-stand guy, it isn't no good for any of us," explains David Magford, a 17-year-old senior and gang steady like his fellow best-friend, about another player. "Actual hands are about a 90-90-per-cent chance that you'll end up with a girl for a night: you will get laid."

The Parsons' home is a white, wooden bungalow. In some ways, it is as if Tracy were left the room, comfortable home. Parsons' father still hangs in her old room. Photographs of her adorn the walls throughout the house—particularly in the carpeted family room where she and her mother sit on one January day, drinking coffee. Marie Parsons is thin like her daughter, and wears a floral shirt and green jeans pants that make her look younger than her 43 years. But the wrinkles around her eyes reflect her life as a mother of two. Marie's smile fades as Tracy leaves to play cards at the kitchen. "I just left again," she says, recalling the trouble last year when Tracy told her that she had tested HIV positive. "Nothing mattered to me any more." As Marie says it, Tracy

Reminiscences

Alexandre Jovary, 42, was a teenager in Calgary during the 1960s. There was an emerging hippy scene in the city with which Jovary, now a high-school teacher, got involved. He reports:



When I brought William Burroughs, a natural water and oil filter, to town under a magnifying glass, I was running. After the trial, a number of people were sitting in a living room and stating at you as an idiot. And he said, "Who do you think I am? Grandfather Moses?" I think a lot of people had wanted a lot of importance to certain things, things that proved to be so different from anything else. There was a real grasping with new ideas and trying to create a new culture. Maybe drugs had something to do with it, but there was such an onslaught of new music and literature. There weren't a lot of alternative things. Now there's no real revolutionary dream. But the 1960s were a more affluent time—there was more ability to throw your name at the system.

In the 1960s, fashion and music were where it was at. There could have been anything from hip huggers to micro-miniskirts. Long hair became a political symbol, and some people believed that it was hard to tell the boys from the girls. While the older siblings may have been hippies—drop ping acid and making love, not war—seems were spending their money on transistor radios, clothes, guitars and records by such groups as The Beatles and The Doors. Peter Dinklage gave the micro-mini dress credit to Easy Rider, and actress Bette Midler became the decade's Marilyn Monroe.

38%
OF SEXUALLY ACTIVE TEENS SAY THEY USE A CONDOM EVERY TIME THEY HAVE SEX; 22 PER CENT SAY THEY USE ONE "ALMOST EVERY TIME"; 27 PER CENT SAY THEY USE CONDOMS "ONLY OCCASIONALLY"; 13 PER CENT SAY THEY HAVE NEVER USED A CONDOM.



COVER

PRIDE AND PREJUDICE

A SCHOOL BOOSTS NATIVE ESTEEM

Diane Oppenheim was working behind the counter of the local *Don Lee* restaurant when a middle-aged man and woman entered. They looked at the young waitress disparagingly, then ordered ice-cream cones. Oppenheim took two seats from the dispenser and wedged them around their heads. The couple told Oppenheim that they did not want the cones—because she had touched them. Instead, they asked that she serve them in creamer bowls. Oppenheim picked up a bowl, saying, "There had to be something done," she says. The couple insisted that they would select their own bowls—and hold them while she served in the ice cream. "I was so mad," recalls Oppenheim. "I walked straight back in the boss's office and told her that if those people had something against the color of my skin, I was not going to serve them." The incident did not take place in Antisocial in the

1990s, but in Merritt, B.C., in August, 1991. The couple was white. Oppenheim, now 39, is a proud member of the Coldwater Band of the Nl'tampana nation, an Interior Salish people who, with limited resources but evident determination, are striving to combat the damaging effects of racism on their youth.

Prejudice is one of the extra challenges that Oppenheim and other natives confront in their teen years. The Coldwater reserve—3,600 rolling acres along the Coldwater River 275 km northeast of Vancouver—is named by widespread racial abuse and discrimination. Like other reserves across Canada, it also suffers from endemic poverty, with an unemployment rate of 75 per cent—compared to British Columbia's average of 9.8 per cent. But for the reserve's teens, those stark realities can make the difficult process of growing up even more traumatic. "There had to be something done," says

Coldwater kids; Diane Oppenheim
Oppenheim determined to pursue
their dreams despite the obstacles

Gordon Antasim, chief of the 556-member Coldwater Band. In 1986, in an effort to address at least some of the problems, the band started its own school. "Our children's eyes didn't have a sparkle in them," says Antasim. "We decided that our main objective was to have a place to put the kids in their eyes."

Before the establishment of the school, Coldwater's children were educated off the reserve, where they say they encountered the kinds of problems that natives often face in white Canadian society. "We weren't making it in the system," Antasim says. "Somebody has to believe that we are something else, totally different. We have to work on counteracting the systemic racism in someone else. You're an Indian kid, you don't know any better, you're from a culture that doesn't speak out, you're from a culture that is not technologically based." He is trying to counteract that with the school. "Hey, you're a great kid!"

Academy: The school's staff had their work cut out for them. Joseph Kallio, 48, who was born in the Nl'tampana, remembers his pupils' apathy when he began teaching at Coldwater in 1988. "The intermediate class, the 13- to 15-year-olds, were quiet—there was no excitement on their faces." They had a "negative image of themselves," Kallio says, adding "Just five years ago, of 10 students, I might have four or five that could be called 'high-achievers.'" One did commit suicide in 1987. "Since then, he says that the students has

improved noticeably. "Now, of 10 students, I might have four, maybe five, that are 'high-achievers.' Now, the students are alive, vibrant—and curious."

Part of the school's success can be attributed to its emphasis on active self-help. Last fall, the students went on a one-week camping trip during which they built traditional shelters and hunted game. Every school day, for half-hour they study their native language, also called Nl'tampana. James Antasim, the school's principal and the wife of Chief Antasim, says that over the years many students almost came to believe that "we are no longer humans." At the Coldwater reserve, she says. "What we want the students to know, with absolute certainty, is that as a human being, 'Yes, I have value and

my atmosphere with anyone just completed, 10 students—half before the start of lunch hour. They discuss sports, music—and an upcoming dance in Merritt, 13 km to the east. All of them want to go. Novelist Voght, 11, checks her toilet in her purse. But the conversation then turns to her 14th birthday. Her mother, Diane Merritt, cancelled after the local RCMP learned of a possible bottle brewing between local white and First Indian teens. Both of those groups, Voght contends, trust natives with racism. She returned to the Coldwater school in December after spending three months in a Merritt public school. "The people are prejudiced there," Voght contemplates. "It was coming from the First Indians and the whites."

For all the obstacles they face, the Coldwater teens appear determined to pursue their dreams. Josephine, 13, says that he wants to be a professional hockey player. Kallio, also 13, would like to go to college, study flying, perhaps become a fighter pilot. Quana (Oppenheim's) 15-year-old sister, Tonya, who recently gave birth to a baby daughter named Pelina, has a Grade 10 education but says that she wants to go back to school when Pelina is a little older. Her older sister's plans are more frustrated. After the graduation from the Coldwater school in the spring with a Grade 12 diploma, Quana Oppenheim plans to move to Kamloops, 75 km southwest of the reserve, to take law and computer courses at Carleton College. "I'm scared of going out on my own," she admits. "I'm not as strong as every night."

who I am in more than good enough to be a member of the greater society."

The message has clearly been heard—but some of the problems remain. Fear of sexual assault, Justice Antasim says, remains for girls; among native girls there is another Canadian trend. "There is still the stereotype of racism that Indian girls can be raped and it's OK," she says. Her husband acknowledges that problems of sexual abuse persist. "To be brutally frank," Chief Antasim says, "there has been a great deal of sexual abuse between older people and children in this community." In response, the school's teachers now offer regular counselling, encouraging students to speak out and seek help if they are the victims of sexual abuse. Drug-and-alcohol counsellor Michelle Kinnison, who works with Coldwater teens as well as members of 18 other Indian bands, says these efforts are paying off. "The Coldwater kids are quite verbal and in touch with their feelings. It's a wonderful sign when you see talk freely about these things."

They also talk about things that preoccupy most teenagers. In the school, with the more-

will be different in raising these every night" that she realizes that she must love to think like a lawyer.

Blueprint: The Coldwater kids say that they all share one dream: to design a new, and permanent, school building. The students have already drawn up a blueprint patterned on their tribe's traditional, where a new, modern, wooden structure with a long base and peaked roof, through which extends a ceremonial corridor pole. Their design calls for a concrete building, with a greenhouse in the middle of the below-ground level and classrooms radiating from it. That pattern will repeat on the second floor, with a large open space overlooking the gym. The Coldwater band is contracted to constructing a new school, and the students hope that elements of their design will be incorporated into the final structure. They plan to have a model ready by spring to present to the band council. It is a clear statement of their desire to see their heritage—and their pride in the school that has changed their lives for the better.

Reminiscences

Elizabeth Ross, 26, director of
members of OAC Canada, which
provides guidelines for the native
industry, grew up in Montreal. She
recalls one of the best things about
being a teenager in the 1960s



It's look back on my teens, the time that strikes me the most was that it was all drama. You know, you think about your future and everything is nice, everything will be great, everything will be perfect. That's why it is such a great period—you aren't being reality yet. You can imagine you'll meet Prince Charming. I didn't think I would be perfect, but when you thought about the future then, you never said OK, well I'm going to have children, my son will be born handicapped and my mother will have a drug problem. I'll take my job and I'll make a dog's salary. When I think about my adolescence that's what I remember, that we have dreams, and that there is nothing that is preventing us from having those dreams, that we don't just have big dreams.

Fashion experienced a resurgence among teenagers during the 1960s. For some groups, designer sweaters were must-haves, while others wore baggy jeans, backwards baseball caps and high-pitched, high-tech running shoes. Black leather motorcycle jackets and daisy Dr. Martens shoes, once solely the footwear of skinhead gang members, became part of the teen uniform. Punk music gave way to new music, disco to rap and heavy metal. The decade was big money in the music business. Michael Jackson, Madonna and Prince

HAL QUINN in Coldwater

EYE OF THE BEHOLDER

YOUNG WOMEN HAVE SELF-IMAGE DIFFICULTIES

For the 16,000 students at the high school that bills itself as the largest in the British Columbia north, the third week of January was one to be savored rather than cringed. Outside the temperature was hovering around 39°F, leaving those who wanted a quick cigarette or a breck of fresh air to huddle in tight clusters at a side exit of the enormous redbrick building. Inside Preston High School, the temperature was warmer, but the stress was on bonds, it was the fourth day in a row of final exams. And for Grade 10 student Stephanie O'Neill, 15, the pressure to perform academically was compounded by another nagging concern—her weight. Standing five foot, three-inches tall and weighing 115 lb, her young body is one pound below the average weight for women of her age. But she had been fasting for several days—eating only half a bagel and water on the 24 hours before she walked into Preston. "I was nervous on TV, at magazines. I see people in the hallway with skinny little waists and I want to be like them," said O'Neill, who added that the stress of exams had sometimes led to snacking a sweet snack in the evening. "When that happens," she said, "I start to exercise—perhaps, take a nap, anything that will take it back off."

Like many teenage girls, O'Neill—thin and pretty—is convinced that she is healthy. In fact, 42 per cent of the young women who took part in a Maclean's/Dominion poll said that they had been on a diet in the past year—compared with only 13 per cent of boys. And teenage girls feel badly about more than their looks. Although 72 per cent do say that they are smart, 81 per cent of boys feel that way. And the older girls get, the less confident they feel, by the time they reach their late teens, they are only half as likely as boys to "strongly agree" that they are intelligent.

These findings, say many experts, present a disturbing portrait of how young culture can cut away at young women's self-esteem. Three decades after feminism began its assault on misogyny, Canada's teenage girls are still struggling hard to like themselves. And they are not alone when writing the books. "The message these young women are really getting," said Elaine Silverman, co-author of *Be's Girls*, *Can't Be a Girl*, a 1992 survey of 1,207 Canadian teenagers, is that they must be good to be loved. They must be perfect to be loved. "It's that they must learn to resist their inclination towards a life of intellect and of creativity—that they must begin to reshape themselves in a more straightforward way that men do desire."

Like O'Neill, many teenage girls say that the media are the number 1 cause of the lack of female self-esteem. "You see actresses on TV and models on the newsmagazines," said Marissa Mann, 15, "and it's like, 'Oh my god, I'm not five-foot-10 and I don't weigh 105 lb—But I want to be just Tammy!'" The Grade 10 student at Kwantlen University High School, a small Quakwaka, 25 km north of Saint John, N.B., stereotypes the television show *Beverly Hills 90210* and pop idol Mi-

chaela as major obstacles in the struggle for self-acceptance. It is a struggle that, in extreme cases, leads to such eating disorders as anorexia nervosa, when young women starve themselves, and bulimia, which involves compulsive bingeing and vomiting. Marissa's school mate, Elise McKenney, 17, said that people look at the thinnest models and say "they just can't get it [the rest of their bodies]." Added McKenney: "That's where the anorexia comes from. That's where the bulimia starts."

Teasing. The media's worship of women who are sexy and exotic affects boys' expectations of girls, as well. Picking boys says that he tries to resist getting girls on his looks. Kwantlen's Cole Foster, 15, said that he would expect "to be teased by other girls" if he had an overweight girl. "I mean, definitely," added Foster. Other teenagers claim that even some male teachers belittle girls with less-than-perfect figures. Andrew Gagnewell, 16, noted that, although most of his instructors go out of their way to treat both sexes equally, one of his teachers at Fredericton High School last year "made it really hard for girls to learn and concentrate" because of his constant references to their physical appearance. "He was picking," added Gagnewell. "When things teachers shouldn't pick about."

But despite the prevalence of disfigurement and accent stress, many girls are clearly hungry for role models that flaunt the hyper-thin norms. Several young women pointed to Canadian *Beverly Hills 90210* as a welcome break from the parade of TV pale-skinned "I Love Romaine" and *Karen's* models. *Beverly Hills 90210*, a hit of the teen's popular prime-time show "Star's" is huge," said Page. "But what I really like is that when I watch it, I don't have to worry about my opinion of myself because nobody on that show is overweight."

Severely women succeed by using their brains instead of their bodies can be enormously inspiring to teenage girls. According to some experts, it is the comparatively high profile of working women in Quebec that explains another dramatic finding of the *Maclean's/Dominion* poll: 25 percent of teenage girls in that province "strongly agree" that they are smart, compared with only 15 per cent as the rest of Canada. And only 34 per cent of Quebec girls dated in the previous year. For young women outside that province, the figure is 46 per cent. And although Quebec teenagers of both sexes are kinder than their English-Canadian counterparts to consider themselves smart, Silverman suggests that the self-image of Quebec girls in particular has been enhanced by the professional strides made by women in that province since the Quiet Revolution of the 1960s. "You are much more likely to

see Quebec women in labor unions and in places of economic and social power," said Silverman. "The message that women can be strong and intelligent is not lost on the young women of Quebec."

For many teenagers of both sexes, life on the home front, and especially relations with parents, has long played a prime role in the development of self-esteem. "I get a 'C' and my parents say I can get a 'B'. I get a 'B' and they want me to get an 'A'," said Christopher Hamilton, 15, who

says Quebec women in labor unions and in places of economic and social power "are a family therapist in disguise. Our. She points to the example of teenagers who show a knee astringent in mood and academics, but whose parents are determined that they excel at sports. "In that case," said Bellingham, "self-esteem can just get tossed out the window."

And while the self-image of many girls is undermined by what they see in the media, Bellingham and others contend that it is boys whose *perceived* sense of self is more commonly dominated by parents—and particularly by fathers. "A lot of modern men have become broad-minded about the pinks their daughters will take," said Bellingham. "But even as some young boys are starting to see girlfriends and understand the concept of dating, many fathers are still offering role models based on the idea that getting along with the new guy is the most important thing in life."

What? As well, the pressure that many of their male friends place on masculinity continues to prevent some boys from getting in touch with a deeper sense of self. "I don't want girls to talk about, 'corroborate feelings,'" said Hamilton. "Do that with girls and they make you feel like, 'That girl's a mom, he's a mom.'"
Anxiety says that he has "a lot more feelings than other guys" on academics and over-achieving. "I don't want to be like that," he says. "I just won't be the whole world know." That tough outer shell may explain boys' tendency to report higher levels of self-esteem. "It's not part of the acceptable male role to show if you feel insecure," said Paul Caplan, a professor of applied psychology at Toronto's Ontario Institute for Studies in Education. The result, noted Caplan, "tapers and heightens of protective screens that contain their own problems from young men themselves."

What parents and teachers should be doing, Caplan and other experts contend, is to help all teenagers judge themselves less harshly. Said Caplan: "We have to tell them that they don't have to always be looking over their shoulders and thinking, 'I am a girl, it's a girl if I try it' or 'I'm a guy, so I feel that.' So a sensitive with which Kwantlen's McKenney says: "People have to learn to accept themselves for who they are," said "It's not about guys that it's important to say 'Nothing less, no, and girls with guys. I want to be a girl, I want everybody is thinking about me, I care about everything.'" Added McKenney: "Let's face it, that's no good for anybody."

VICTOR DAVIES is a freelance



Stars of television's *Beverly Hills 90210*: girls call the media the number 1 cause of their lack of self-esteem

attends Hampton High School, 20 km north of Quakwaka. "It's like, 'Get off my back, you know I'm doing my best.' For others, self-confidence comes under siege from parents who push them to take up pretenses, or work towards careers that do not interest them. Said Kwantlen's Elaine Hamilton, 18: "I think where parents are going wrong with their teenagers is trying to control them. Parents have to learn to guide more—and control less."

Those who deal with young people agree. "The last teenagers are allowed to be who they are secretly, the fewer their options of them-

TV Teens



In 1987, a cast of inexperienced Quebecers' Toronto actors debuted on the CBC TV series *Depression*. After 10 episodes, they grappled with emotional tree issues, were off in *Depression* High and, ultimately, grew up. A final *Depression* special, *Season's Greetings*, was watched by 2.3 million Canadians in January, 1992.

The *Massachusetts*, 21, who played Lucy, now lives in North York, a Toronto suburb, works part time as a bartender and is auditioning for new roles. He recalls his *Depression* years fondly. "I actually gained more out of being in the series in my adolescence than I would have normally," he says. But *Massachusetts* says that it was tough to leave the show. "One morning you are on top and you are popular. Then, suddenly, it is all gone and you feel alone." Still, the young actor is confident he will land another major role. "I can do a good job," he says. "I'm just waiting for my second chance." What name other cast members are up to *Shane* (Shane) (Flek), 19, works part time at the same restaurant as close friend *Massachusetts* while finishing high school.

Shane (Shane) (Shane), 20, is a second-year student at the American Academy of Dramatic Arts in Los Angeles.

Adam (Gosling) (Lacy), 19, is a freshman film student at New York University.

Sadie (Mitsky) (Cudde), 21, is a full-time actress who continues to work in television.

Amanda (Stipe) (Spinks), 22, works part time in a Toronto clubbing scene while auditioning.

Nell (Hague) (Whelan), 22, recently returned to Toronto after a short stay in Victoria, B.C., and is looking for a job.

THE GLORY DAYS

WHY KIDS EAT, DRINK AND SLEEP HOCKEY

A big unseasoned hockey fan in Montreal, the demands of the game were immediately familiar. Inside the dressing room last week, the players exchanged jokes in two languages as they stripped on their equipment and prepared to wear the familiar blue and white jerseys of the Montreal Canadiens. In the hallway outside, their ice coaches discussed strategy and reviewed charts in preparation for a critical seventh game. Further down the hall, TV and newspaper reporters interviewed selected players, who provided the usual get-together. Delectuous Jerome Nadeau, who is slightly five feet, eight inches tall and 125 lb.—at 13—gold reporters. "We cannot waste time thinking about the pressure on us. If we stick to our game, we will win."

This careful response is far from the only characteristic that players at the Montreal Hockey League Hurricanes perceive as being shared with their National Hockey League counterparts. Like their older peers, Hurricanes players—drawn from a region that includes more than one-third of the population of the city of Montreal—for the most part reflect the talent and refined self-confidence of elite athletes. And they put their abilities—and their responsibilities—on display before crowds ranging from hundreds to as many as 12,000. For 13- and 12-year-old players, that is a demanding proposition. But, said the team's head coach, 24-year-old Pierre Bouchard: "We just keep telling the kids that as long as they play their hardest and work with each other, nothing else matters."

The Hurricanes—known as the "Juniors"—are a dedicated 17-year-old team that stretches nearly eight months; their average week includes two weekend games, two weekday practices and a separate weekend session at a gymnasium. Most players attend Richard Montpetit School, which is publicly run and free of charge but accepts only gifted athletes who receive extra academic training. With two tournament wins and a regular-season record of 29 wins, seven losses and three ties, the double-Hs are ranked as one of Canada's top teams in their age group. And if they win their opening game against the Detroit Red Wings, their potential competitors in the Quebec City Penguins Tournament include teams from Sweden and Republic of the former Soviet Union. But, stated the team's

captain, 13-year-old centre Patrick Huard: "The greater the demands on us, the more we like it."

These demands are clearly not for everyone. Robert Desnoes, a Montreal police constable who is the general manager of the Hockey-Horizon organization, credits that some players quit enough to play in the 14 club circuit never try out or eventually drop out of the program. As well, some parents and educators argue that highly competitive team sports place undue emphasis on winning—and that today's particular generation is weaker during impressive achievement. Partly because of

from Zola, and the team's leading scorer, Michael Roberts, from Portugal. One of the team's star goalkeepers is Gary Engler, a strapping left wing whose family arrived in Montreal from Vancouver just before the start of the season. "At last, the different language and environment were really weird," said Engler, who attended French-immersion school in Vancouver. "But around here, if you want to play hockey and you're good enough, that's all that really matters to the other guys."

At the onset of their team, the players are very conscious in describing hockey as their major form of recreation. "Who would want to



The Montreal Hockey League Hurricanes: 'The greater the demands on us, the more we like it.'

that, many Canadian hockey groups—including the Quebec Minor Hockey Association—now look disliking from younger categories, including parents. At the same time, advocates of the system say that team sports promote a sense of discipline and shared responsibility that carry over into adult years. "One of the reasons I became involved in minor hockey is because of my experience as a policeman," said Desnoes. "I've seen kids of kids with two-week time on their hands and not enough to do—that is a problem with these kids."

Advantages: Coaches and players cite other advantages, as well. For one, the 18 Hockey-Horizon players reflect the increasingly cosmopolitan face of Montreal. Many are first-generation Canadians—including Nadeau, whose family came to Canada 31 years ago

do anything else if we could be playing hockey?" asked goaltender David Huard, the 12-year-old brother of team captain Patrick. But advantages can produce strong changes in a short time. The players' graduation into youth's hockey category, for 14- and 15-year-olds, may also bring a sleep shift in priorities. "In previous, kids eat, drink and sleep hockey," said Pierre Bouchard, the coach of the Laurentians team. But, he added with a sigh, "Then I get them up in bars and, and all of a sudden they've discovered parties and girlfriends, and they're packing after school hours and late nights in with their gear." And for the Hockey-Horizon, like many other boys their age, life after that is a little quite the same again.

ANTHONY WILSON-SMITH in Montreal

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A risky treatment

Interleukin-2 is powerful—and toxic

In clinical trials of the drug, many cancer patients experienced serious side effects, ranging from heart attacks to kidney and respiratory failure. Some patients have even died from the side effects. Despite the potential risks, Quebec Premier Robert Bourassa ordered a hospital operated by the U.S. National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, Md., on Feb. 6 to begin receiving a controversial treatment for malignant melanomas. The treatment combines the powerful new drug interleukin-2 (IL-2) and the patient's own white blood cells to stimulate the body's immune system. According to Dr. Stephen Karp, a Montreal cancer specialist who spent the past four years working at the Bethesda hospital, only about 150 melanoma patients have received treatment similar to Bourassa's. In about 40 per cent of the patients, he said, the treatment either reduced the size of their tumors or halted the spread of the disease. Said Karp, "Interleukin is a biological way of treating cancer. This is the future of medicine."

Duncan first diagnosed Bourassa's cancer in 1980, and they have operated on the 39-year-old political leader twice since then in remote, unstaffed huts. But since Bourassa's last operation in January, the disease has continued to spread to other parts of his body. Experts on melanoma and that controversial

going to experiment with the type of treatment offered by Rosenberg. Canadian physicians can't legally administer IL-2, which is produced by Chiron Corp., a San Francisco-area biotechnology firm. But unlike the United States, where the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has approved IL-2 as a type of cancer treatment, Canadian doctors have to obtain permission from Health and Welfare Canada every time they use the unapproved drug as a new patient. While Blackley, acting director of Ottawa's Federal Bureau of Biologics, which regulates biological biotechnology products, said that last year Health and Welfare Canada authorized the use of IL-2 on 17 occasions under its emergency drug-release program, Blackley added that the department has not approved the drug for general use or cancer treatment, but makes exceptions on compassionate grounds when other methods of treatment appear to be futile.

Still, at least one Canadian cancer specialist, Dr. Ilan Ben-Sher of Vancouver, and that he would be reluctant to use the drug routinely because the side effects are so severe. As well, said Silver, other treatments appear to be just as effective. Silver said that between 1987 and 1990 he treated between 30 and 40 patients with IL-2 as part of a research program



Smaller in laboratory: harnessing the power of a potent protein

one cell to attack melanocytes such as tumors and cells infected by viruses. It also causes other types of white blood cells to attack transplanted organs, which the body rejects as foreign. Christopher Blackley, a biochemist at the University of Alberta in Edmonton who was involved in interleukin research during the 1980s, said that the killer cells and lymphocytes secrete poisons of toxic molecules that they release near a tumor or virally infected cells. "They're nasty little molecules that are sort of like little bombs within the killer cells," said Blackley. "Once the molecules are released in the vicinity of a tumor they explode and explode."

The molecular biology that occurs within a normally operating human body are extraordinarily complex. This system activates killer cells and lymphocytes to eliminate most virally infected cells. But for reasons that scientists do not fully understand, killer cells are sometimes ineffective against tumors. Blackley said Tumors are either resistant to the toxic molecules contained in killer cells, or tumors can prevent killer cells from releasing their toxic payloads. Since 1984, Rosenberg has administered various types of interleukin-based treatments to more than 3,000 cancer patients in a search for a successful treatment of tumors. In some cases, he has started patients with genetically engineered IL-2 by itself while other treatments involve a combination of IL-2 and either

IL-6 or IL-1. Rosenberg extracts tumor from the patient's tumor and in the laboratory, isolates this. Alternatively, he extracts blood from a patient in order to isolate killer cells. The cells are then exposed to genetically engineered interleukin-2 for about three days, a process

and tumor-infiltrating lymphocytes. Writing in the December 1988 issue of the highly regarded *New England Journal of Medicine*, Rosenberg and his Bethesda-based research team reported that more than half of 20 melanoma patients treated had seen some tumors

shrink to half their original size or disappear altogether. Two years later, in the May 1990 issue of *Scientific American*, Rosenberg reported that in 17 per cent of the patients he had treated with IL-2 alone the tumors disappeared altogether, or experienced a 50-per-cent reduction in size. According to Rosenberg, in 25 per cent of the patients treated with a combination of IL-2 and killer cells, their tumors partially or completely disappeared. Some patients have remained free of cancer for as long as six years. These results are far better than are achieved with the conventional methods of treating cancer.

According to Karp, who worked at the Bethesda Institute until last August, Rosenberg usually has about 30 patients under his care while receiving interleukin-based treatments. The clinic also handles about eight new patients a week who are referred by other physicians. Karp said that not all of these patients are deemed suitable to receive treatment with IL-2. Indeed, physical fitness is one of the criteria used to judge a patient's suitability. Because of the side effects that are an almost inevitable result of the treatment.

A spokesman for Chiron Corp., the Emeryville, Cal.-based firm that manufactures genetically engineered IL-2, said that the firm approved the use of the drug in May 1990, following clinical trials involving 250 patients with various cancers. Most of those patients experienced what Food and Drug Administration officials described as "severe side effects"—and 11 patients died from these side effects. Karp said that during the four years he spent at Rosenberg's clinic, two people died from side effects. But over those four years, 300 patients have received the treatment and none have died from side effects.

Since the FDA approved the drug, American cancer specialists have treated more than 1,000

patients with it, said Lawrence Kohn, Chiron's senior president of corporate communications. Sales of IL-2 have reached \$12.5 million, he added. The FDA-approved label recommends that physicians give their patients six to eight doses every eight hours for a period of five days. It also suggests that patients be allowed to go off the drug for seven to 10 days before undergoing another five-day treatment period. Kohn said that a typical two-phase treatment requires 30 vials of the drug and costs about \$11,000.

After three days of treatment last week, Bourassa had not experienced any serious side effects, according to Sylvie Gudin, his director of communications. "It is a pleasant surprise because the greater risk so far is to these treatments," she said. Gudin added that the Quebec premier is a strong-willed individual, and has remained physically fit, despite the rigors of public life, by swimming twice a day for several years. Still, Bourassa's latest battle with cancer has just begun.

Rosenberg: killer cells



PHOTO BY AP/WIDEWORLD

Bourassa: some patients have died from the side effects



BY FRANK JENNIS

The power of love

Two romances provide a midwinter thaw

It is the shortest month, but February casts an oppressively long shadow. Two new movies, however, offer happiness. *Groundswell* features for a winter of discontent. *Strictly Ballroom* is a low-budget first feature from Australia about competitive ballroom dancing. *Groundswell* Day is a high concept Hollywood farce about a man who keeps reliving the same day over and over again. Neither sounds exciting. But they are both witty, intelligent fables that tweak the tradition of musical comedy.

Strictly Ballroom is a ball—a beautiful, crowd-pleasing musical with an irreverent wit. And the story, a show-business Cinderella tale, has a real-life echo in the movie's remarkable success. The project originated as a half-hour studio revue. But Australian writer-director Baz Luhrmann proceeded for \$90. He then expanded it into a full-scale musical which opened the world in 1996. But Luhrmann had a hard time turning the



McDowell (left), Murray: pleasant surprise

play into a movie. Potential investors "would laugh in my face every time," the 36-year-old filmmaker recalled in a recent interview. But, strapping together \$3 million, he made his movie and it opened to modest success at the Cannes Film Festival in May. It went on to earn \$25 million even before opening in North America. In Australia, it is the second highest grossing film ever, after *Crocodile Dundee*.

Strictly Ballroom is a romance about adults rebelling against orthodoxy. Scott (Paul McDowell), a brilliant young dancer, has infuriated the elders of the Dance Federation by inventing his own steps. The federation has groomed him to be its top champion. But, rejecting his designated partner, he teams up with Faye (Lisa Monaghan), an openly chiding waitress for her own owner. In Scott's arena, she blossoms. And with help from her father, Rex (Spanish Despero star Antonio Varga), she and Scott prepare a tempestuous Latin routine for Australia's most important dance competition.

Superficially, the movie echoes the fairy-tale formula of such hits as *Flashdance* and *Dirty Harry*, two partners from opposite sides of the track melt down their differences. But Luhrmann has amplified the cliché to create a hilarious send-up. "All fairy tales must be told in a land far, far away," he explained, "and

Hotel Stars Come Out

Midwinter is a wonderful season. The city has a sparkle in its eye from the downtown lights, a warm embracing feeling from the musicians and a bright joy reflected in the hotel's waters. Staying in a place that complements these beguiling features makes all the difference. In a short time, the Waterfront Centre Hotel has captured the spirit of the city.

On a recent stay at the hotel I tried to single out what has made this hotel so remarkable in a city of very fine hotels. My first clue was, of course, staying in the face from my room—a view that is stunning. The hotel's local mountain peak landscape seems to be peering just over my balcony. The balcony was a rather-quiet world of hotel, sea, planes, cranes and helicopters.

A few hours in the hotel and something much more subtle, yet equally pleasing, began to make its presence felt. People with a talent for making other people happy.

Now, great service is a norm in hotels of this calibre, but this place seemed to have something special. After a few minutes with the hotel's

ADVERTISEMENT

General Manager Michael Kula, I came away with a file that confirmed my suspicion. I mean I just let me notice the staff went far beyond the expected.

"Kulana was extremely thoughtful and courteous, and we were most grateful for her kindness" read our Anchor and Karen and Tom. Guest Service Managers, provided the kind of service I wish I could expect at all the hotels I do business. "Karen gave a report for us when we were unable to get our computers working on our Sunday arrival date."

Craving through the notes I was definitely getting a sense of a strong trend. After a Bank of Montreal conference, one note read "What a fantastic show all of your people put on last evening. In fact, I cannot remember, in my lengthy career, a more polished effort." Matthew W. Barrett, the CEO added, "exceptional all of the arrangements were first class."

Words like superb, delightful and outstanding filled the pages. My impression was confirmed. The location of the hotel was indeed the most visible attraction, but knowledgeable people soon learned what such and every hotel guest knows on checking out.

The real jewel of The Waterfront Centre Hotel is not the waterfront outside, but the staff inside.

There is no land further away than the world of ballroom dancing. It seems a wonderfully eccentric world, ruled by specialists in bad taste. Australian actress Pat Thomson, who died shortly after filming, plays Scott's drag on lady of a stage mother. Other gaudy characters include Les (Peter Whitlock), an older statesman of dance whose wife (Angie Black) wagers, and Barry (Phil Murray), the federation's corrupt, tyrannical president.

Despite its kooky edge, Luhrmann's satire has an affectionate underbelly. What makes *Strictly Ballroom* so effective is the way that it glides from satire to heart's realism—taking the emotional undercurrents. And its two young stars, who can dance and act, make the steps from love to enchantment appear effortless.

Groundswell Day is a plainer collection. But it too offers a charming progression from cynicism to romance. In *Groundswell*, Phil Murray stars as Phil, a jaded TV newscaster whose boss sends him to Buncombe, Pa., to cover the annual Groundswell Day festival. Somehow, he gets stuck in town. Each morning, he wakes up the same hour on the same day—6 a.m. Chris Elliott, the script does not attempt to explain his predicament. There are no angels or evil machines. It just happens. The day keeps repeating itself like a skipped record. With no tomorrow in sight, and no consequences to worry about, Phil explores a variety of business, from sex to suicide. But the drif of nature's grandeur soon seizes him. To break the infinite, Phil tries self-improvement. And, as he works free, his life becomes a trial-and-error series of mistakes.

Phil takes a pretty good selection of his producer, Baz Luhrmann, who starts him on his adventures with a healthy skepticism. He uses his accumulated knowledge to impress her with what seems like a winning situation. Directed by his former General City employee, Harold Ramis, Murray gives his best performance in years. His despondent improvisational style has always seemed built-in to the moment. As a character who is literally as pressed in the moment, he is ideally cast. McDowell, meanwhile, does a remarkable job as an unassuming role. And Chris Elliott, David Letterman's former cohort, earns his way through some amusing sillies in a calm concentration.

But the movie belongs to Murray, who makes an absurd premise strangely believable. For once, he is not just funny. He plays the serious side of the story with uncharacteristic conviction, which in turn leads the humor some emotional ballast. Occasionally, *Groundswell* Day bails on head in dumb-comedy cliché. But the filmmakers have depended mostly on witty dialogue, and on the simple elegance of the premise—which could be about anyone whose days all start to seem the same. A sweet, mischievous note that is warmer than a vanilla. *Groundswell* Day comes as a pleasant surprise, like a spring thaw in the dead of winter.

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Zealots at error

Did a 14-year-old boy rape and murder?

THE SCALES OF JUSTICE
(CBC, Feb. 21, 8 p.m.)

The evidence is at times compelling that the Canadian legal system is overly eager to find accused murderers guilty and to hang them in jail. Finally exposed on last last week, Ontario's Guy Paul Morin was twice tried for the 1986 sex slaying of his 12-year-old neighbor, Christine Jessup—despite allegations of legal errors and a seemingly flawed police investigation. Last April, the Supreme Court announced a new trial for David Milgaard, who had spent 23 years in prison after he was convicted at the rape and murder of Saskatchewan nurse's Carol Miller. In 1983, Vancouver Donald Marshall ended an 11-year stay in prison after the BCSC reversed the shocking death of teenager Sandy Scott—and witnesses claimed that they had, under police pressure, led a case. But long before any of these cases hit the headlines, another trial, and another guilty verdict, picked the conscience of the nation. In 1996, despite contradictory evidence and questionable court proceedings, 14-year-old Steven Truscott of Clinton, Ont., near London, was sentenced to life in prison for the rape and murder of schoolmate Lynne Harper. Now, his story is the subject of an absorbing new episode of the CBC series *The Scales of Justice*.

Because it was so controversial, the Truscott case was a natural for the series. Since the show's debut two years ago, writer-producer George Juto and host Edward Grossman have delivered recollections of seven controversial cases in Canadian history. And although they have occasionally focused on the system's inability to prosecute victims of crime, it is the sense in which the episode is far powerful that has inspired them to start. The latest episode, directed by Sheila Grossman, follows that tradition: intense and enlightening, it argues that, whether guilty or not, Truscott did not get the treatment he deserves.

The program is divided into roughly equal first crime story, courtroom drama and Grossman-as-analyst segments on the relevant points of law. The story begins on June 8, 1959, when, as Grossman says with biting sarcasm, "12-year-old Lynne Harper

jumped onto the bicycle of her classmate Steven Truscott and the two of them rode off together into Canadian history." Two days later, searches found Harper's strangled body in a wooded area just outside of town. After only three days, police charged Truscott (Graham Anderson) with the young girl's rape and murder. By October, Grossman's Glen Hays, played by Kenneth



Any Steven (left), Antler: a harrowing story

Welch in a curiously flat performance, had preferred this to start. The latest episode, Grossman notes wryly, "with a prosecution that detested from the start." And Grossman convincingly argues that Hays was not Truscott's only enemy in the courtroom. Although his witnesses berated Hays for being too aggressive, Judge Robert Lewis Thompson (Glen McCand) quietly clipped away at Truscott's chances for a fair hearing. Refusing to call a mistrial when Hays raised prejudicial evidence in his opening

statements, the judge ended the proceedings with a charge to the jury that it be ordered to find Truscott guilty to avoid the eyes-witness evidence of Truscott's innocence.

Because it is about a trial that could last ages, *Justice* depends for its dramatic tension on deconstructing how things ended as they did. A measure of the show's success is the eloquence that permeates the courtroom scenes. Although Truscott's fate was sealed decades ago, it seems, with each new piece of evidence and each turn of phrase, to hang in the balance. Particularly gripping is the testimony of a series of young witnesses, friends and acquaintances of the convicted and the accused, who give by recall the events of the day in question.

The onscreen focus attention is on the second trial, which traces the case's journey to the Supreme Court, where it was sent for review by cabinet in 1996. Although significant in terms of legal history—it was the first time the high court ever called witnesses to testify—the proceedings evoke a sense more of bitter fruit of tragedy, leaving its decision on what it called the "unreliable" nature of the depressed and nervous Truscott's own recollection of events, the court rejected the appeal.

In closing, Grossman notes that Truscott, who was released on parole in 1989 after serving the maximum 10-year sentence, is now living under a different name—one that even his children do not know is fabricated. That is a small point, but one that distances the series' determination to highlight the human consequences of a legal system over which justice does not always prevail.

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Compiled by Bruce Robinson

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The clowns are out for Mulroney

BY ALLAN FOTHERINGHAM

It is the clowns who embolden how better things have become. Fuglows grow to hold the address within. All comedians are basically depressed people, dropping their heads and their eyes to disguise the glow you they have of life.

The grim mood now affecting the country can be judged by the anger concerning the soul of Fred C. Dobbs, who has come out of sort of retirement. Fred C. Dobbs, in his retained grey penitence and shaggy white wig looks rather like Mark Twain after a bad night sleeping under a bridge. He is currently dispensing his own nostrums at lunch on Wednesdays at Beaver 994, a Toronto watering hole close to Queen's Park, where they keep the accents.

Fred C. Dobbs orders the dinner toward and host a toast to "the greatest Canadian of all time—Northern Dancer." Fred is in the grand tradition of Don Harral's Charlie Fuglows, the master from Perry Sound who offers random wads from behind his tattered cardigan and towel cap.

In real life, Fred C. Dobbs is Michael Magee, handsome in a Hollywood star, a refugee from a privileged upbringing who turned into a modern-day Damon Runyon race-track character. Fred C. tells us that Mulroney is the only Canadian Prime Minister who has had a year named after him—Moose Joe.

Fred C. is supposedly from Brampton, an Ontario town that probably hides the complete as much as Perry Sound does. Dobbs tells the donors that he likes Bill Clinton, because of the fact that the President's mother couldn't be having read the *Daily Morning News* for 30 years.

Michael Magee was born sarcastic and has been going downhill ever since. He was shipped around to the best of Ontario private schools. St. Andrews included, and none of them apparently could make much of an impact. In desperation he ended up at several places of low learning: Oxford and Montreal, which basically are designed to cope with the well-born who can't be caught. The end came about Grade 10. Fred C. Dobbs says "I wasn't a dropout. I was a leech-out."



The look-out ended up as a bellhop at the *Amber Hotel* in Vancouver, a kind of some character, which, as Fred C. explains, "had an, accidental, in-birthed aptitude." The downtown hotel was full of "lobby gnomes," the Runyonesque characters who were always fighting the last war and solving the problems of the world.

They surrounded the young bellhop of his uncle, with his wheezy voice and heavy nooses, and so Fred C. Dobbs came into creation. Magee wrapped the horns of the greatest of Jack Short, a legendary Vancouver race-track announcer and sometimes liked to let him on his radio show, and Fred C. Dobbs came to life over the airwaves.

He's done the lecture circuit—"Stephen Leacock is a very nice, though not as very as Ed Broadbent"—and a regular Toronto radio star. His monetary silence at the podium has been because he's trying to write a book on

Mulroney. His rage seems to have dashed the project, so angry is the clown that he has conscripted his creative juices. Did Fred C. Dobbs from Brampton in fact jinxed Quebec's Fuglows? No, Magee explains, but when Fred C. began to appear regularly on Cbc's new *Morningstar* show, then hosted by Chris Germain, Mulroney trembled Fuglows and eventually, as we know, went all the way up himself to *Rio Rio*.

And where did the Fred C. Dobbs come from? Movie buffs will know that one. It was the monster of Humphrey Bogart in one of the four films ever made, *The Tempest* of the Storms. Magee, as which prospector Walter Huston—father of reflecting director John Huston who as you know was father of *Angela Huston* who as you know was directed by Jack Nicholson—frank his furnace in gold-dust blown away in the final scene by a westerner and his, he wrote and then laughs, assuming the identity of the world.

Michael Magee, then Fred C., has adopted and adapted the title properly and wrapped it around his person. He doubts the world is crap and there is no logic to it. He masterfully quotes Barry Goldwater's effect that "America went to hell when you became fashionable."

The bellhop listening to the lobby gnomes graduated to Vancouver's Inauguration Coffee House during the reform and-implications session, along with stand-up acts under the wedding approval of last House of Commons, the button-down leech who—like most successful revolutionaries who have gone on to complete middle age—is now an executive for a cigarette firm.

Fred C. Dobbs is now angry, disavowing the advice of the lady in his life that he has to be more funny than better. His contempt for Mulroney is unbridled; his accurate predictions for the last party dress, Toronto has long ago, "been dedicated to money rather than people," not an original description, but, of course, entirely true.

Like Mort Sahl before him, Fred C. Dobbs stands at the Beaver 994 with a mouthful of newspapers and quotes the obvious comments that fill them every day, cabinet members emitting obvious lies and wild statements pouring out truth.

So back, at track, even honesty at the race track, where he knows the signs are often filled with more than the usual. He lies up on the backstreets when the straws run out. Fred C. Dobbs, who is supposed to be a funny man, is better. When the clowns are empty, what about the great ones? Those in power might just attention.

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